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## Bush hopeful on Iran offer, but ship to stay

### Don't hurt the hostages: Fadallah

WASHINGTON, Aug 4, (Agencies): President George Bush said today he was encouraged by the new Iranian leader's offer to help win the release of US hostages in Lebanon and that he wanted to explore it to the fullest.  
 "I don't want to raise hopes beyond fulfillment but there's reason to be somewhat encouraged," Bush said during a brief question-and-answer session in the Oval office.  
 His remarks followed a statement by Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani that he was ready to help free US citizens held by pro-Iranian Lebanese captors.

"I address the White House: There is a solution for Lebanon, a solution for freeing the hostages," Rafsanjani told a mass prayer meeting in Tehran today.  
 "Take a sensible attitude and we will help solve the problems there so that people of the region may live in peace and friendship," he said.  
 Rafsanjani said that if the United States wants hostages freed, then it must ask Israel to free Obeid, a Shiite leader abducted with two companions by Israeli commandos. Referring to the killing of Higgins, Rafsanjani said, "we do not make any judgement about the group which executed the American colonel," the radio said.



Unusual position

Daniel Hickman, a London city labourer, adopts an unusual resting position in his wheel barrow, at the end of a long hot and hard day in London on Thursday. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Twice secret raids failed

BOSTON, Aug 4, (AP): The United States came close to conducting military strikes in Lebanon twice in 1983 when government intelligence learned where radical Shiite Muslims were training, former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane said.  
 McFarlane made the remarks during a broadcast on the US television network ABC, that aired last night. The broadcast included interviews with four former hostages: David Jacobson, the Rev. Lawrence Jenco, the Rev. Benjamin Weir and Mithilshwar Singh.

After the bombing of US marines in their barracks in 1983, McFarlane said the United States had "extremely good intelligence" that Hezbollah militants were training in barracks in a valley in eastern Lebanon. Most Western hostages in Lebanon are believed held by factions of Hezbollah.

Two possible strikes were aborted because "of our own military chain of command," McFarlane said.

The first time, US pilots circled so long over the area that Syrian air defence could have been able to "turn on, track them, shoot them down," McFarlane said.  
 McFarlane said the pilots were not to blame. Instead he said the first incident was the fault of "inept mismanagement" by their superiors.

The second raid, planned with the French government, was called off by then-defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger because he felt it was too risky, McFarlane said.

McFarlane said Weinberger's decision resulted in "great damage to our credibility and put an end to any hopes of dealing with the terrorists."

He said there was never any effort planned to rescue the hostages because "never have we had the kind of intelligence that you need to tell you... where are they right now, where are they when you want to send amphibious or the helicopter team to go in after them."

McFarlane pleaded guilty last year to four misdemeanour counts of withholding information from Congress about efforts by the administration of Reagan to funnel military aid to the Nicaraguan Contra rebels. He left his National Security Council post in November 1985, but he remained active in policymaking, leading an unsuccessful arms-for-hostages mission to Tehran in 1986.

"You cannot condemn the innocent people of Lebanon... on the vague basis that some group has possibly killed someone (Higgins) for a crime."  
 "But if the United States wants to take the initiative (in freeing the Western hostages) it must ask Israel to free the Friday prayer leader of Jibchit."

If the US responds by saying it cannot pressure Israel into freeing the Muslim cleric "this isn't acceptable to us," Rafsanjani said.

Meanwhile, US warships remained poised for action in the Middle East today despite a decision by pro-Iranian commandos in Lebanon to suspend a death threat against US hostage Joseph Cicippio.

With carrier-borne aircraft of the US sixth fleet in the eastern Mediterranean in striking distance of possible targets, this remained an option if any hostages were harmed, the New York Times said, quoting administration officials.

US Secretary of State James Baker described the report as very hypothetical and speculative.

Bush, in his first public comments since the pro-Iranian Revolutionary Justice Organisation suspended a death threat against hostage Joseph Cicippio yesterday, reacted cautiously to Rafsanjani's statement.

"When you see a statement that offers hope about the return of our hostages, I want to explore it to the fullest," he said.

A White House spokesman later called the Iranian offer "encouraging."

The comments raised the possibility of some relief to the long ordeal of the hostages, a sharp turnaround from earlier in the week when kidnappers reported hanging hostage William Higgins and threatened to kill Cicippio.

Cicippio's kidnappers, in announcing they had lifted the death threat, issued new demands for the release of Obeid. Cicippio's kidnappers also demanded the freeing of Lebanon captured in Israel and Palestinians jailed in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The crisis was precipitated by Israel's seizure a week ago of top Muslim cleric Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid. The abduction was roundly criticised when it happened but some analysts said it could turn out to be a key to

(Continued on Page 9)



Relatives await

Relatives of passengers feared dead in Thursday night's crash of an Olympic Aviation aircraft on the island of Samos await their flight out to the island where they will help in the identification of the crash victims.  
 Greece said all 34 Greek passengers and crew were killed when their Olympic Aviation plane crashed into a mountain while preparing to land on the tourist island of Samos.

"No one has survived," Transport Minister Nicos Gelettas said, angrily denying some foreign news reports that the crash could have been caused by terrorists.  
 On the island, just off the Turkish coast in the eastern Aegean Sea, rescue teams carried bodies down steep cliffs to the town of Samos to be identified by relatives.

Full story Page 5

## NEWSWATCH

**No panic in Kremlin:** President Mikhail Gorbachev expressed concern on Friday over the recent wave of ethnic and industrial unrest, and lashed out at an emerging parliamentary opposition but he denied there was panic in the Kremlin.

"This is not panic, this is what we call perestroika," Gorbachev said in a speech winding up the first 40-day session of the country's new inner parliament, the Supreme Soviet, which then adjourned until late September.

Gorbachev, who has chaired many of the Supreme Soviet's meetings, said recent weeks had been one of the most difficult periods the country had faced.

"To tell you openly, we did not have a single quiet day in the last one and a half months," he said. "The Supreme Soviet, as well as (Communist) Party and Soviet bodies, get directly involved in all events and conflict situation these days." (Reuter)

**German mother freed:** A West German tourist, jailed for killing the man who raped her daughter but acquitted on appeal, left a north Cyprus jail for home on Friday.

A court in the self-proclaimed Turkish-Cypriot state provoked a storm of protest in West Germany by jailing Udo Loh for four years and her daughter Melani for three after convicting them of manslaughter.

Loh, 48, lost four teeth in a fight with 20-year-old Ozmen Tulga, who raped Melani three times in their tent.

An appeals court quashed both convictions and Melani was released on June 30. The mother was freed on Friday after serving a three-month sentence, reduced for good behaviour, for possessing 55 grammes (two ounces) of cannabis.

**Assyrian treasure:** An Iraqi expedition has uncovered an Assyrian archaeological treasure containing rare gold artifacts dating back to 800 B.C., the Iraqi News Agency reported on Friday.  
 The agency said the treasure was found in the grave of Assyrian Queen Nanyal Shoumy Marmay, wife of Ashur Nasser II, who reigned in the eighth century B.C.

The new Assyrian find, in Nimrod area some 38 kilometres south of Mosul, north Iraq, has opened a new chapter in the history of relics in Iraq, the agency commented.

**25 killed in train wreck:** Two speeding passenger trains collided head-on about 100 miles (160 km) east of Havana early Friday, killing at least 25 people and injuring 100, the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina reported.

It said many passengers were trapped inside the wreckage.  
 Havana Radio said the accident occurred in the city of Colon when a train travelling to Havana from the town of Saco Spiritus collided with a train going from Havana to Camaguey.

The radio said an Army helicopter was helping to transport the injured and that attempts were being made to free trapped victims.

**Deng 'critical':** Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping has fallen in critical condition from prostate cancer, a Japanese news dispatch from Beijing reported Friday.

Jiji press, quoting Chinese sources, said a special medical team has been dispatched to the summer resort of Peitaito facing Po Hai on the northeastern mainland, where Deng has been staying. (See Page 7)

## Khaddafi tests stiff upper lip

LONDON, Aug 4, (UPI): Libyan leader Col. Moammar Khaddafi set Britons laughing today and literary experts trying their best to keep a stiff upper lip by asserting that William Shakespeare was none other than an Arab dignitary called Shaykh Zubayr Bin William.  
 The claim was made during a tongue-in-cheek address by Khaddafi last December to deputies of the Tunisian Parliament, which for reasons as yet unexplained, Tehran Radio decided to broadcast on Tuesday.

In the December speech, monitored at the time by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Khaddafi said: "We taught them (the Europeans) literature. (Shaykh Zubayr Bin William was Shakespeare. Shakespeare was Shaykh Zubayr. Shakespeare was Shaykh. Yes, (applause with Khaddafi himself laughing). We even taught them literature. We are the ones who must be proud of Shakespeare... William is the son of Shaykh Zubayr."

"They could not pronounce Shaykh Zubayr so they said Shakespeare. Thus the name was adopted. Yes Shaykh Zubayr. We should not be ashamed of that because we are more refined and have more warmth than they do, therefore we should never have an inferiority complex as regards them. They are our disciples," Khaddafi said.

"According to Khaddafi, Shakespeare was the son of Shaykh Zubayr and he has borrowed all his works from well known Arabic fables and has altered them. Khaddafi cites several instances to prove his claim," it said quoting Khaddafi as saying that Romeo and Juliet, for example, had come from the Arabic love story of Laili and Majnun.

Levi Fox, director of the Shakespeare centre at the bard's hometown of Stratford said: "This claim strikes me as being the most fantastic. Quite fantastic it should have emanated from this source."

## Assassin dies in Rushdie bid

### Bomber blown up

BEIRUT, Aug 4, (Reuter): A hitherto unknown group in Lebanon said today one of its members died in London while preparing to kill British author Salman Rushdie, threatened with death by the late Ayatollah



Police officers carry out a forensic examination of the exterior of the Beverly House hotel yesterday after an Arab bomber blew himself up while it is thought he was assembling a bomb on Thursday night. (Reuter wirephoto)

Khomeini.  
 "Muslims mourn their first martyr, Gharib, who died while preparing a daring attack against the apostate Salman Rushdie," said a hand-written statement by the "Organisation of the Struggles of Islam."

The statement, delivered to Beirut's An Nahar newspaper, said anyone who supported Rushdie, including British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, would pay the price.

### Target

A bomb-maker, believed to be Arab, blew himself up at a West London hotel yesterday in a blast which tore through the small five-storey Beverly House hotel in Paddington, starting a fire but leaving no other casualties.

"If the first martyr fell on his way to the target, the following martyrs will hit the target. No one will be at rest," the statement said.

Khomeini issued an order-in February for Muslims to kill Rushdie for blasphemy against Islam in his novel "The Satanic Verses". Several pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon said they would carry out the command.

Rushdie has been in hiding in Britain since Khomeini's order, which caused outrage in the West and led to the breaking of diplomatic ties between Britain and Iran.

## British police smash Asian crime ring

LONDON, Aug 4, (Reuter): British police said on Wednesday they had arrested 132 mainly Indian and Pakistani members of a mafia-style Asian crime network after an international investigation led them to two London-based gangs.

The arrests followed "Operation Shampoo," a six-month probe into the activities of the two gangs involved in armed robbery, drug trafficking, illegal immigration, blackmail, credit-card fraud and a protection racket.

"A number of gang members have been arrested but investigators have uncovered an Asian organ-

ised crime network that goes far beyond the looting and drug sales (gangs), a detective told Britain's Press Association news agency.

The operation grew into an international investigation covering Britain, the United States, Canada, West Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, India and Pakistan, the police said.

The crime rate in West London, where the gangs were based, had dropped dramatically since the arrests began with street robberies down 26 per cent, police added.



Happy birthday to Queen Mum

Admirers of Queen Mother Elizabeth showered the former monarch on Friday with flowers, cakes and poetry on the occasion of her 89th birthday.

Barry Millard, 7, won some coveted attention from the "Queen Mum" by snapping a salute as the widow of King George VI greeted about 3,000 well-wishers outside Clarence House, her residence.

Looking cool in lilac hat and a blue and yellow floral print dress, the Queen Mother spent about 25 minutes accept-

ing flowers from children at a birthday party.

Many in the crowd well-wishers and staked out places early for the annual march of Irish Guards past the residence.

Janni Dallapozza, 47, said he had been coming for a decade, and this would be his 127th personal glimpse of the Queen Mother.

Colin Edwards brought a basket of fruit, a poem and three photographs he had taken of the Queen Mother

## 'Both are to blame'

VIENNA, Aug 4, (Reuter): A Council of Europe official who probed the exodus of ethnic Turks from Bulgaria said today that Ankara and Sofia shared the blame for the problem and should find a joint solution.

"On the one hand there are cruel and harsh violations of human rights taking place in Bulgaria," said Austrian Council of Europe representative Fritz Probst, one of three officials who made a week's tour of eastern Bulgaria.

"But on the other hand there is very active and negative propaganda from the Turkish side — so I appeal to both sides to slow down this exodus and to work for a humanitarian solution," he told Reuters.

Some 232,000 ethnic Turks have crossed the border to Turkey from Bulgaria since mid May, saying they are fleeing cultural and religious repression.

Bulgaria says they are really Bulgarians who were forced to change their names under Ottoman rule and those who have left for Turkey are tourists.



## Drug halts Parkinson's disease: new study

### Deprenyl to be also tested on Alzheimer's patients

WASHINGTON, Aug 4, (Reuters): Scientists yesterday reported finding what appears to be the first drug able to block the brain-damaging advance of Parkinson's disease, an incurable ailment that is one of the three major progressive nervous diseases plaguing the elderly.

The drug, known as deprenyl, was recently licensed in the United States for treatment of the symptoms of advanced Parkinson's disease and already is widely

available overseas.

But a new study by California scientists showed the drug effective not just in alleviating the tremors, slowness of motion and instability that are characteristic of Parkinson's, but in actually halting the disease.

If the research, which involved only 54 patients, is borne out in future studies on larger groups, deprenyl would become the first known drug to block either Parkinson's or Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's disease or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis — also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

J. William Langston, who is director of the California Parkinson's Foundation in San Jose, said he hoped his research might one day help scientists find the cause of diseases like Parkinson's and he predicted deprenyl would soon be tested in Alzheimer's patients.

The chances of getting Parkinson's,

which typically strikes people over 40, are about one in fifty. Among its victims have been actor Sir Michael Redgrave, comedian Terry Thomas and Chinese leader Mao Tse-Tung.

The disease slowly kills off cells in a part of the brain known as the substantia nigra that are key to bodily movement because they create a substance called dopamine. A shortage of dopamine causes the typical Parkinson's tremors.

## MEDICAL FILE

### Firms fail to report problems

## Companies 'hiding'

WASHINGTON, Aug 4, (UPI): At least 35 makers of medical devices — from wheelchairs to pacemakers — aided to report deaths, injuries and life-threatening problems to the government, a public advocacy group charged yesterday.

The Public Citizen Health Research Group also alleged the Bush and Reagan administrations have been "soft on industry" and as a result the Food and Drug Administration "failed to act appropriately against these criminal violations of the law."

Katherine Meyer, a Public Citizen lawyer, said failure to report problems within five days is a violation of a 1976 amendment to the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Meyer said intentional failure can lead to a fine of \$10,000 and three years in prison.

Besides wheelchairs and pacemakers, Public Citizen also cited problems with heart defibrillators, infant respiration and heart monitors, silicone breast implants, tampons and crutches.

"It's interesting that people who steal bread to provide for their families can go to jail and these companies can hide reports in their files and go on," said Dr Sidney Wolfe, director of the organization founded by Ralph Nader.

Wolfe cautioned, however, the cases in question involve a "fraction" of the industry.

William Grigg, an FDA spokesman, said the agency is looking into Public Citizen's allegations and said the "medical device reporting system is receiving good cooperation."

"The companies that make 50,000 different types and brands of medical devices make 15,000 reports a year and about 4 percent of these are considered after analysis to be related to a device failure," Grigg said. "Those have resulted in important recalls such as one correcting more than 11,000 artificial kidney machines after a faulty valve resulted in a death."

In a letter to Massachusetts Sen. Edward Kennedy, Rep. Henry Waxman of California, and Rep. John Dingell of Michigan, Public Citizen requested a Congressional investigation into deaths and injuries it said were "found in company files by FDA investigators," and that the FDA "responded minimally to these gross violations."

"During routine establishment inspections of medical device manufacturing firms from December 1985 to December 1988, the FDA found serious unreported device problems in the files of 35 different companies," the letter said.

"FDA inspectors discovered at least seven deaths, 109 serious injuries, 265 malfunctions/serious injuries... and one design defect, all of which the firms had failed to report the government as required," the letter said.

"An additional 33 firms failed to file (reports) within the time period specified by the regulation," the letter also said. "At least 76 different products were involved in these reporting deficiencies."

Public Citizen said the deaths of four infants and serious injuries to four others were "associated with alarm failures of the Aquitron medical infant respiration/heart rate monitor."

The group said although the company's files were reviewed by the FDA in May 1988, it was not until October of that year that the company was sent a "notice of adverse findings" by the FDA.

Robert Samec, a vice-president with the Plymouth, Minn., company, said "Aquitron is not aware of any death or serious injury involving a monitor due to a confirmed product malfunction."

**Wafers dangerous?** Doctors in England have found a medical peril to the pious, according to a letter in the current issue of the New England Journal of Medicine — communion wafers.

Medical researchers reported on Wednesday that the wafers often used in Roman Catholic and Anglican services are made from wheat flour containing gluten and its water-insoluble proteins, such as Gliadin. These substances can spark an attack of a

digestive disorder called celiac disease.

The disease prevents the absorption of nutrients and causes a wide variety of symptoms such as diarrhoea, weight loss, gas and abdominal pain. (Reuters)

**Dieting preferred:** By a heavy margin, Americans would rather skip a meal than skip rope to lose weight, US health officials said yesterday.

After conducting surveys in 32 states and the District of Columbia, the US centres for Disease Control (CDC) reported that overweight people say they are far more willing to diet than to exercise. (Reuters)

**Poisoned shellfish:** Pink scallops contaminated with a potentially deadly, natural poison were shipped to San Francisco restaurants because of the time it took to process tests on the shellfish, officials announced.

Shellfish tested contained more than five times the level of the poison permitted by state regulations, State Health Department spokesman Scott Lewis said Wednesday.

All but 7 pounds (3.1 kilograms) of the 75 pounds (34 kilograms) of scallops in the shipment from Washington state had been accounted for by late Wednesday, according to State Health officials.

Officials were trying to determine whether diners had eaten any of the scallops, said Ken August, another Health Department spokesman. August said no reports of poisonings had been made, and he noted that the poison is relatively fast-acting. (AP)

**Dental hints:** A broken filling, loose crown, or painful, chipped or fractured tooth sends most people running to their dentist. But what do you do if you're on vacation without nearby dental care?

"No homemade remedy can ever substitute for the professional attention of a qualified dentist," said Dentist Brooks Morgan. "In a pinch, though, when you have no alternative, these helpful hints might come in handy."

■ For a broken filling, rub the cavity with clove oil. Don't fill it with candle wax or chewing gum.  
■ A bonding compound able to hold a loose crown in place for a day can be made by mixing petroleum jelly and flour.

■ Take aspirin, acetaminophen or another aspirin substitute for toothaches. If you have swelling as well as pain, rinse your mouth regularly with salt water. Apply ice pack, or even a cold can of soda. Don't apply aspirin directly to the tooth because it can permanently damage the nerve.

■ Rinse your mouth with warm water if you chip or break a tooth. Don't try to file the tooth, and don't use glue to try to save it.

■ Use wet gauze immediately to wrap a tooth that has been knocked out. Get to a dentist quickly and it might be saved. (AP)

**Anaemia studied:** Anaemia, the loss of red blood cells that can kill people who suffer malaria, is largely caused by the body's attempt to defend itself against the infectious disease, research on mice suggests.

The study by Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in Berkeley, California, indicates overstimulation of part of the immune system also is partly responsible for other malaria symptoms, like death of kidney tissue, clogging of blood vessels in the brain, and eventual suppression of the immune system.

The discovery could lead to better understanding of malaria and a new treatment against it: use of antibodies against the "tumour necrosis factor," or TNF, that helps cause the anaemia and other symptoms, researchers said. (AP)



### Cooling off

Tom Deitelbaum, 11, of Naugatuck, Conn., cools off in the fountain in Boston Common on Wednesday. Temperatures reached the 90s. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 10-year-old hero

CENTRALIA, Washington, Aug 4, (AP): The 10-year-old boy's voice dropped to a tired whisper as he told how he helped keep his great-grandfather alive in the woods after their truck ran off a remote logging road.

"I picked berries. I smuggled up by him," Mike Combs said from his hospital bed, where he was being treated for dehydration and exposure.

Mike and his 84-year-old great-grandfather, John C. Eveland, were lost for 4-12 days in a remote area in southwestern Washington State. The pair was found by searchers early on Wednesday.

Eveland was listed in serious but stable condition after suffering dehydration, and possibly a stroke, said Jennifer Strozky, a spokeswoman at Providence Hospital in Centralia, 80 miles (130 kilometres) south of Seattle.

"As far as I'm concerned, this little fellow saved my daddy," said Joy Norton, Mike's grandmother.

She stroked the boy's hand as he struggled to stay awake long enough to answer reporters' questions. "He's a hero in my book."

The two got lost on Friday after Eveland finished a sheep-shearing job in the small town of Doty. They were found about 20 miles (32 kilometres) to the south, the opposite direction from the boy's home in Centralia and Eveland's in Rochester.

### WHO survey

## AIDS cases rise

GENEVA, Aug 4, (AP): The number of AIDS cases reported to the World Health Organisation went up by 2.9 per cent to 172,143 world-wide last month, with Italy registering the sharpest increase, among updated national reports, a WHO survey showed today.

Italy listed 4,158 cases, a 10.2 per cent rise within two months. Updates from Brazil, 6,857 or 6.8 per cent more, and the United States, up 2.8 per cent to 98,255, also contributed significantly to the overall increase.

WHO experts estimate that the actual global total is more than twice as high and that at least one million new cases are expected world-wide by 1993. San Marino and Brunei listed their first cases, one each, raising to 151 number of countries to where AIDS has spread. Twenty-six countries, most of them in Asia, said they had no cases registered. They included 100-million population Bangladesh and 60-million population Vietnam.

Among the world's more

### AIDS tests

People worried about AIDS in the UK are being offered an HIV test with results on the same day, backed by expert counselling, it was reported today.

The facility, unique within the free national health service, is provided at the Royal Free Hospital in north London.

It gives the prospect of early treatment for patients who are vulnerable to AIDS-related conditions, the health authorities here said.

Meanwhile, it was highlighted here that tests in the United States showed that the anti-AIDS drug zalcitabine slowed the progress of the deadly virus.

### as Charlene, made a similar claim and is now under protective care at a secret location.

Medical experts said at the time they believed Charlene was the first person with AIDS in Australia to be detained against her will.

New South Wales State Health Minister Peter Collins said he had ordered a special

medical unit to be set up to provide care for people like Tanya and Charlene.

The unit, staffed by about 10 doctors and nurses, would be placed under round-the-clock police guard to protect the prostitutes from enraged clients, health officials said.

Collins also appealed to the media to help identify AIDS-infected prostitutes.

# Drug traffickers invade rural US

## America 'awash in narcotics'

WASHINGTON, Aug 4, (Agencies): The United States is "awash in narcotics and dangerous drugs," the attorney-general said yesterday as he released reports on drug trafficking across the country.

The reports, compiled by the 93 US prosecutors, indicate that two small-town mayors in the Midwest are linked to drug dealers, while the purest heroin can be found in New Jersey.

In New York state, Chinese cartels have replaced the traditional organised crime families as the leading heroin traffickers, according to US attorneys there.

Even in rural Iowa several drug cases have involved hired killers, one prosecutor said. The reports from all of the nation's US attorneys were compiled to help federal drug policy director William J. Bennett develop a national drug control strategy, which is due Sept 5.

The Washington Post newspaper reported today that a final draft of Bennett's plan would encourage states to allow suspected drug addicts to be forced to take part in drug treatment programmes even if they were not convicted of a crime.

The draft plan also recommends laws imposing tougher punishments for first-time drug offenders, including publishing their names in the newspaper, revoking their drivers' licences and placing them under house arrest, the Post said.

"At the outset, we knew that the country was awash in narcotics and dangerous drugs, but we did not expect to find significant cocaine operations, for example, in Wyoming, or heroin trafficking in Iowa," Attorney-General Dick Thornburgh told a news conference yesterday as the reports were released.

Sometimes working in combination, the drug traffickers have advanced beyond city streets to the nation's heartland, bringing heroin to Iowa, major cocaine operations to Wyoming and LSD to rural South Georgia, the report said yesterday.

Los Angeles street gangs have extended their reach to Sioux Falls, S.D., and Baltimore; Haitian crack dealers have set up shop in Delaware, and Wichita, Kansas, is home for two separate Dominican cocaine groups, the report said.

"If you read through this report you cannot but come to the conclusion that most of the United States of America is a high-intensity drug trafficking area," Bennett said.

Thornburgh last fall commissioned what he dubbed the "dun and bradstreet" report. It identified 43 "serious" drug organisations, all now under "intense" investigation, he said.

In a letter to President George Bush, Thornburgh said the study "painted a new portrait of organised crime," with a new cast of characters including, most significantly, the Colombian cocaine cartels, the Bloods and Crips of Los Angeles, motorcycle gangs, Asian Triad and Tong gangs and Jamaican Posses.

"New ones are springing up every day. One of the salient features of this report is the changing nature of organised crime in this country. No longer are we talking about the traditional organised crime families only," he said.

In addition to detailing the growing number of drug groups, the report also said new alliances have emerged among organisations.

New York mafia families now "have strong ties" to Colombian and Cuban dealers in the Miami area and also work with Asian groups and motorcycle gangs. The Jamaican Posses, with 10,000 members, buy cocaine from Colombians and appear to be developing relationships with Los Angeles gangs, the report said.

The four Colombian drug cartels, with the best known ones in Medellin and Cali, exemplify the large, vertically integrated groups, the report said.

Two men have been convicted of setting a woman on fire because she failed to pay a \$50 cocaine debt.

Lamont Anthony Flemming, 22, and Devonne Andre Johnson, 21, were found guilty Wednesday by an Alameda County Superior Court jury of attempted murder, burglary, attempted robbery, kidnapping and causing great bodily injury.

They are scheduled to be sentenced Sept 22 and face a maximum sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole, said Prosecutor M.J. Toole.

The victim, Camille Johnson, 36, suffered second- and third-degree burns on the upper part of her body in the March 1988 attack.

She also was beaten with a baseball bat and one of her fingers was broken, according to court documents.

### Cocaine tax evasion

## Man charged

LEWISTON, Idaho, Aug 4, (AP): A man arrested in a cocaine bust has become the first person charged under an Idaho law requiring dealers to buy a tax stamp for their illegal drugs.

Victor H. Smith, 23, is charged with cocaine possession and failure to pay the special state tax on the drugs, which were found July 3. He was freed on \$500 bail.

The law, which took effect July 1, requires purchase of tax stamps on dealer quantities of cocaine, marijuana and other drugs. Violations carry up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Steve Tobias, Nez Perce County prosecutor, said the arrest is the first under the law, although the tax commission has initiated civil penalties against one person.

The stamps are about 2 inches square (13 centimetres square) and are green for marijuana, blue for controlled substances sold by quantity and red for those sold by dosage. The stamps cost \$3.50 per gramme for marijuana and \$200 per gramme for cocaine.

The tax commission, which issues the stamps, is prohibited from trying to establish the identity of the taxpayer.

"We will mail them to whoever addresses our post office box," said Steve Miller, commission chief of operations in Boise, Idaho. "There is absolutely no follow-up by this agency to obtain the identity of the person."

Forty-two grammes or more of marijuana and seven grammes or more of cocaine require stamps.

The commission sold 93 stamps for marijuana in July. But Miller said no stamps have been purchased for any other drugs.

# Arms-for-drugs figure surfaces

## Hull denies charges

MIAMI, Aug 4, (AP): John Hull, whose Costa Rican ranch allegedly served as a way station for guns-for-drugs trades to aid the Contra rebels, surfaced in Miami on Wednesday after fleeing an indictment in Costa Rica.

Hull was out on \$37,500 bond facing charges of violating Costa Rican neutrality and trafficking in cocaine when he slipped out of that country about a week ago, he said. The drug counts were dropped on Wednesday by an investigating judge there, but the neutrality charges remain.

In the United States, Hull faces a subpoena by a US Senate committee looking into similar charges, as well as a US justice department probe into an allegation that he fraudulently obtained a \$375,000 US government development loan.

The 69-year-old farmer on Wednesday vehemently denied all the accusations in an interview with the Associated Press, saying charges against him were actually charges against the US government.

"The Costa Ricans are accusing the United States government, the CIA, the past president and the current president of being drug traffickers," Hull said.

The US-born Hull, who lived in Costa Rica for 20 years, called himself just a "patriotic American" who had given humanitarian aid to the anti-communist guerrillas opposing the Sandinistas in Nicaragua.

The accusations have "been pushed by two groups of people — your communists and your drug people," Hull said.

But prosecutors in the United States, while saying they have no evidence of the drug charges, ins-

ist Hull was more active than he admits in carrying out Oliver North's policy to aid the Contras even after Congress cut off funding.

A chart prepared by then-assistant US attorney Jeffrey Feldman in Miami in 1986 put Hull directly under North and his National Security Council aide Robert Owen.

### Arrested

An official of the government's anti-corruption agency was arrested at the Guatemala international airport when he allegedly tried to board a Miami-bound flight with 97 pounds (43 kilograms) of cocaine in his luggage, police said.

The arrested official, Jose Fernando Minero Navas, 27, worked at the airport as an agent of the presidential department of administrative control, said national police spokesman Guillermo Molinero.

### Heroin

Police seized 40 kilograms (88 pounds) of heroin and arrested six people in a crackdown on a ring that brought drugs from Turkey to Italy, authorities said yesterday.

Police on Wednesday arrested three Turks, a Colombian, an Italian and an Egyptian. They were charged with heroin trafficking and criminal association.

Milan police officers estimated the street value of the seized drugs at 250 billion lire (\$192 million).

Police found 30 kilos (66 pounds) of the heroin in a false bottom of an international transport truck parked near Milan's cemetery. The Turkish driver was arrested in Milan.

## Jury indicts Thai

### Heroin smuggled to US

BANGKOK, Thailand, Aug 4, (AP): A US federal grand jury has indicted a Thai police general on four counts of smuggling heroin to the United States, a US government official said yesterday.

The official, speaking on condition he not be identified, said the grand jury in Brooklyn, New York, indicted assistant police inspector-general Maj. Gen. Vech Pechborom on July 13. Vech denied the charges.

The official said the indictment resulted from more than four years of investigation by the US Drug Enforcement Administration in co-operation with Thai police.

He said the US agency charged that Vech was part of a Southeast Asian ring, controlled by

Americans of Asian descent, that smuggled heroin into the United States at least 15 times.

The ring was based in New York's Chinatown and Lower Manhattan and in Los Angeles.

He said 22 members of the ring were arrested between October 1984 and July 1988. The arrests and the seizures of a total of 35 kilograms (77 pounds) of heroin were made in Bangkok, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Hawaii, New York and Los Angeles, he said.

The indictment said Vech helped arrange shipments of heroin from Thailand, directed financial investment in a courier network and used his influence to smuggle drugs through Bangkok Airport, the official added.

## AIDS retarded by AZT

WASHINGTON, Aug 4, (AP): AZT, the only government-approved anti-AIDS drug, significantly slows progression of the disease when given to people with early symptoms according to results from a new clinical trial, officials said yesterday.

The drug was approved for use in people with AIDS, but new trial results for the first time show that AZT also benefits patients with early symptoms of infection with the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV, that causes AIDS.

Results were so good the trial has been stopped and patients taking a placebo have been offered the drug instead.

The finding could potentially benefit an estimated 100,000 to 200,000 people with early symptoms of HIV infection, said Dr Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Frank Young, commissioner for the Food and Drug Administration said the agency will work quickly "to translate these important results into wider availability of (AZT) for earlier treatment of the disease."

The trial has been underway in 19 locations since August 1987, according to an announcement late yesterday by the Department of Health and Human Services.



### Friendly chat

British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, chats with AIDS victim, Shane Snape during her visit to the Midway Mission Hospital in east London on Thursday. The hospital cares for chronically sick and severely disabled patients. (Reuters wirephoto)

### UK issues toy alert

LONDON, Aug 4, (KUNA): A nation-wide alert has been issued in the United Kingdom to parents about toy dogs which can give off deadly cyanide gas if set alight.

Trading Standards officers seized some of the toys on sale in Merseyside, northern England, but it is feared that hundreds of others may be in homes across the country, it was reported today.

The Chinese-made dogs with red plastic ears.

A Trading Standards spokesman said a whole range of other soft toys, particularly at the cheaper end of the market, are now being tested for safety.

SYDNEY, Aug 4, (Reuters): The second Sydney prostitute in a week to confess she carried on working after being told she had AIDS, said on television she had sex with thousands of people after being infected four years ago.

The 22-year-old trans-sexual prostitute, identified as Tanya Spence, said last night she never told her clients she was a carrier

of the killer virus.

"They wouldn't go with me if I told them. I don't think I should be locked up. I haven't harmed anyone," she said.

Police said today they were still trying to trace her.

Less than a week ago another prostitute, also from the notorious Sydney red light district of Kings Cross but identified only

as Charlene, made a similar claim and is now under protective care at a secret location.

Medical experts said at the time they believed Charlene was the first person with AIDS in Australia to be detained against her will.

New South Wales State Health Minister Peter Collins said he had ordered a special



# Voyager 2 probe discovers three new moons near Neptune

PASADENA, California, Aug. 4, (UPI)—NASA's Voyager 2 probe, hurtling toward a close encounter with Neptune Aug. 24, discovered three new moons around the distant planet, pushing the number of known satellites to six, officials said yesterday.

Only two moons of Neptune — Triton and Nereid — were known before Voyager 2's encounter but on July 7, the discovery of a new moon was announced and three more, temporarily designated 1989 N2, 1989 N3 and 1989 N4, were confirmed Wednesday by scientists at the Jet Propulsion

Laboratory.

The latest discovery was announced yesterday. Each of the new moons ranges in size from 62 miles (100 km) across to 124 miles (200 km) across.

All three new moons, which were tracked over a five-day period to confirm their orbits, were found to be circling Neptune in the region where scientists suspect partial rings, or "ring arcs," to exist. As such, the moons may play an important role in maintaining the structure of the presumed arcs.

Voyager 2 will pass 3,000 miles (4,828 km)

above Neptune's cloudtops at midnight EDT (0400 GMT) on Aug. 24, completing a "grand tour" of the outer solar system that began with launch from Cape Canaveral, Florida, 12 years ago in 1977.

During the course of its cosmic travels, Voyager 2 has explored Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and dozens of moons, beaming back thousands of priceless photographs and reams of data. Neptune represents Voyager's final planetary encounter and one that promises to be spectacular.

The three new moons were discovered

while the 1-ton Voyager was more than 22 million miles from Neptune, which could mean many more will be found as the spacecraft gets closer and its cameras are able to record ever more detail about the planet and its environs.

Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus have well-developed ring systems and there is Earth-based evidence for the existence of partial rings around Neptune.

One way to look for such rings is to watch what happens when a planet moves in front of a star as viewed from Earth. If rings are

present, the light from the star will appear to twinkle on and off as it filters through the swath of dust and debris.

The light will then go out as the planet moves directly in front of the star — called an "occultation" — and the twinkling will be repeated after the star appears to move behind the rings on the other side of the planet.

Over the past nine years, astronomers have studied 110 occultations of stars by Neptune. In eight cases, the starlight dimmed, but only on one side of the planet or the

other. It did not dim on both sides as one would expect if Neptune was circled by a complete ring system.

"It's possible that what we saw is a satellite rather than a ring arc," said Voyager 2 project manager Norman Haynes. "There's a lot of controversy about it and in fact, not everybody would bet money that we'll find rings."

But if the ring arcs do exist, "we'll eventually find them," Haynes said. "We may not see them till very, very late in the last few days before encounter."

## Agreement may bring CNN to Mideast

ATLANTA, Aug. 4, (Agencies): Turner Broadcasting System Inc. said yesterday it signed a five-year deal for the Soviet Satellite Agency Intersputnik to beam 24-hour Cable News Network (CNN) programmes to Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

The agreement, signed in Moscow earlier this week for undisclosed terms, will give the Atlanta-based news programmer access to

every country with cable or other subscription television service, enabling significant expansion from the 83 nations in which CNN is now available, a spokesman said.

Disclosure of the signing came a day after Turner Broadcasting said it made a small \$5.5 million profit in the second quarter — its first in more than three years.

CNN, founded in 1980 by Media Entre-

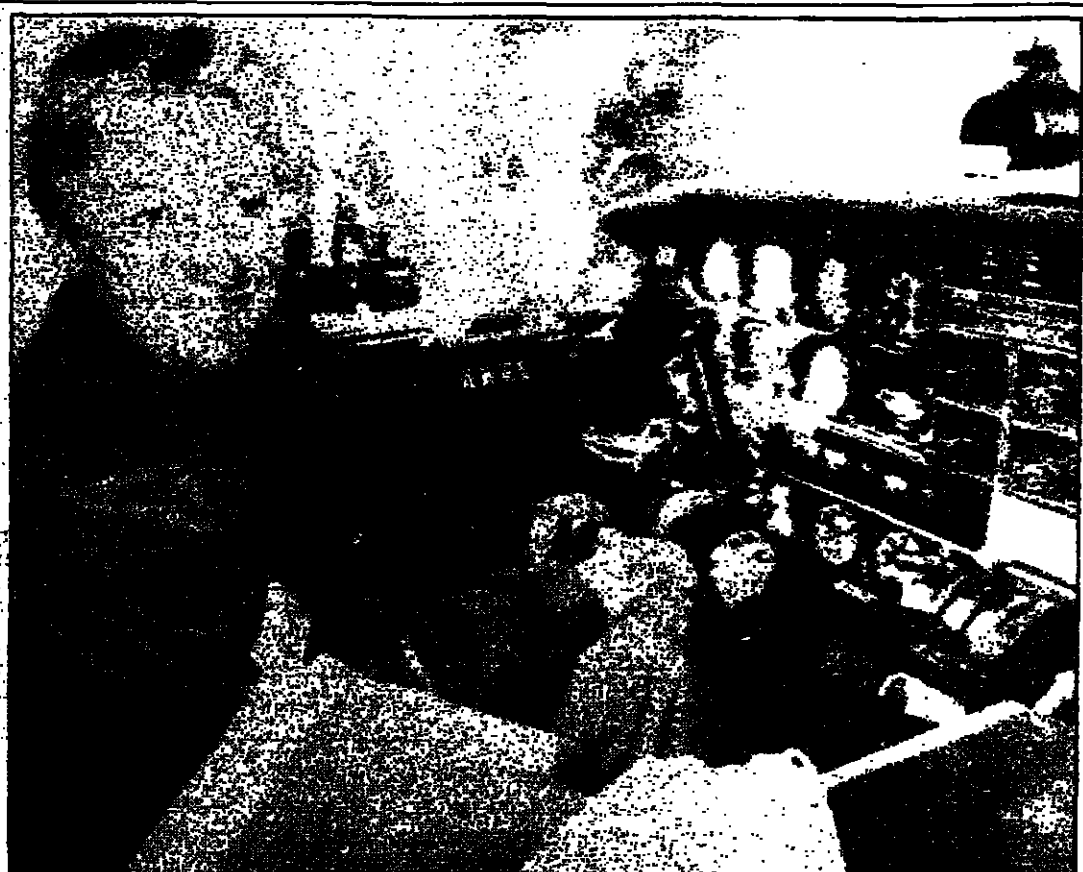
preneur Ted Turner, reaches more than 50 million US households and is available outside the United States in more than five million homes and 200,000 hotel rooms.

CNN spokesman Steve Haworth in Atlanta said Wednesday the expanded signal will cover the area from South Africa to Norway and from Hong Kong to the Azores Islands off Portugal.

## Junk in space affects plans

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4, (Reuters): Before scientists build a base on the moon or send a mission to Mars, they may have to confront a less lofty problem: What to do with thousands of pieces of junk already orbiting the Earth.

Space trash — ranging in size from discarded rocket bodies to specks of dust — could pose difficulties for the US space station: Freedom's foundation of President George Bush's plans for 21st century space exploration.



Flying high

Sydney mother Gaby Kennard talks to a media contingent Thursday before setting out on a bid to fly solo around the world in less than 80 days. Kennard who mortgaged her house to buy the Piper Savannah single engine plane, hopes to fulfill a childhood dream in the 28,000 nautical mile voyage. (Reuters wirephoto)

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: New Yorkers who stayed in the city this summer are seeing an assortment of stars day and night as more than a dozen films are before the cameras here this year.

Robert de Niro and Ray Liotta are working with director Martin Scorsese on Good Fellas, a film based on the best-selling book Wiseguy.

Sean Penn is filming State of Grace, while Bill Murray is working on Quick Change. (AP)

NEW YORK: Comedian actor Eddie Murphy says he thinks Paramount and Spike Lee have been very unfair to him.

"Given my personal circumstances and the success of my films, I've got the worst deal in Hollywood," Murphy said in an interview with the Rolling Stone magazine.

He was upset by Jack Nicholson's potential \$60 million payday for Batman, a payoff based on a percentage of the receipts and merchandising rather than the per-film deal that Murphy signed with Paramount Pictures. (AP)

PHILADELPHIA: Singer Phyllis Hyman has taped a public service announcement about breast cancer because of a friend's death from breast cancer and her sister's struggle with the disease.

Ms Hyman, a Philadelphia native who still lives in the city, filmed the announcement for Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and the Linda Creel Foundation.

Ms Creel who wrote Ms Hyman's hit Old Friend as well as The Greatest Love of All, died in 1986. (AP)

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey: Mike Rutherford says the music and message of his solo group, Mike and the Mechanics, is becoming more defined and is distinctly different from Genesis. Rutherford said, "There's a lot of influences that are coming through the Mechanics that haven't completely gotten out yet. We are always changing."

Although both groups have a top 40 sound, Rutherford sees differences. "I think onstage we go a little more (Rhythms and Blues), and that's one of the things that takes us away from Genesis," he said. (AP)

LAS VEGAS: Comedian Rodney Dangerfield honoured the musicians' union strike by not appearing at Bally's Hotel and Casino.

Representatives of musicians' Local 369 said Dangerfield changed his mind and agreed not to perform as previously announced. The hotel confirmed that.

The hotel announced it was closing its celebrity room, which features name stars, until the strike ends. (AP)

PARKERSBURG, West Virginia: The Be Happy shop in Parkersburg has fallen on sad times.

Wood county sheriff's deputies raided the novelty shop this week, confiscating 10 boxes of drug paraphernalia and confiscating the business' records.

Owner, James Markley said he has a licence to sell the rolling papers, bongs and water pipes commonly used to smoke marijuana.

Deputies made no arrests and Wood county prosecutor Jeff Reed said an investigation would continue. Reed would not say whether any drugs were found at the shop.

Reed is accusing Markley of failing to keep proper records. (UPI)

NEW YORK: Sylvester Stallone says he isn't trying to avoid romantic commitments because of his failed marriage to Brigitte Nielsen. He just hasn't found the right woman.

"I need something like sister Mary Theresa and Madam Curie and, uh... Irina la Douce, a little bit of everything," the actor said in an interview.

Stallone says he appreciates women because they "have a vast understanding of the way I think." (AP)

LUCERNE, Switzerland: Irish flautist James Galway has offered a reward for the return of five stolen gold flutes, three of which are studded with diamonds.

The musician says he hopes the thief will have trouble selling the distinctive instruments, which disappeared from a railway station along with luggage he was unloading.

"It's like somebody trying to sell a Formula One car," Galway said. "Of course it can be sold, but you have to find somebody who is not going to drive in the Indianapolis 500, otherwise it would be spotted immediately." (AP)

LOS ANGELES: School board members aren't sure they want actor Rob Lowe giving anti-drug lectures in classrooms under a court-ruled community-service sentence.

"We will want a guarantee for the parents of our children that children are protected," said Los Angeles unified school district board president Jackie Goldberg.

"It appears on the surface he has, at minimum, dubious judgement."

Lowe, 25, was accused of sexual exploitation of a minor after he allegedly videotaped sexual encounters with a 16-year-old girl in an Atlanta hotel room in 1988. (AP)

LONDON: Andrew Lloyd Webber has donated £400,000 (\$660,000) for research on diabetes, a disease which he says has devastated many young careers on stage.

The funds will support research by Dr David Pyke of King's College Hospital and Dr David Leslie of Westminster Hospital. They recently opened the diabetic twin research unit for studies on whether diabetes is inherited or transmitted by a virus.

Lloyd Webber, whose musical hits include Cats and Aspects of Love, said diabetes had affected his family as well as his industry.

"My first wife is a diabetic, and I have known a number of people in the entertainment industry, particularly young dancers, whose lives have been irreparably damaged by this dreadful disease," Lloyd Webber told Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency. (AP)

NASHVILLE, Tennessee: Big Guy, a wandering 14-foot (4.2m) python, is back at home after a day-long roam through his neighbourhood and a dinner of a stray cat. At least its owners hope it was a cat.

"He ate a cat. I know he did," Gayle Tison, Big Guy's owner, said on Wednesday. "When we found him, he smelled like a cat. You know how cats smell when they spray. I found some white fur in his mouth too."

The giant box constrictor broke through his side of his glass cage on Tuesday afternoon, slithered down the balcony of Big Guy and Gayle Tison's apartment and escaped through the bushes. The 85-pound (38 kg) snake was found in a neighbour's driveway, coiled under a car with some conspicuous bulges in his stomach. (UPI)

## Emmy Award hopefuls selected

UNIVERSAL CITY, California, Aug. 4, (AP): The CBS-television mini-series "Lonesome Dove" dominated the nominations for the prestigious Emmy Awards yesterday, closely followed by NBC's "L.A. Law" and the ABC mini-series "War and Remembrance."

"Lonesome Dove," based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning Western novel by Larry McMurtry, received 18 nominations, including best mini-series and acting nods to Tommy Lee Jones, Robert Duvall, Diane Lane, Angelica Huston, Danny Glover and Glenn Headly. It also received nominations for directing and writing.

NBC's "L.A. Law" took 17 nominations as best drama series and in eight acting categories, including Michael Tucker, Susan Dey and Jill Eikenberry as best lead actors and Larry Drake, Jimmy Smits, Richard Dysart, Michelle Greene, Susan Rutan and Amanda Plummer in supporting roles. The show also won two directing and three writing nominations.

The 30-hour mini-series "War and Remembrance" won 15 nominations, including best mini-series and lead acting nods for John Gielgud and Jane Seymour and supporting honours for Polly Bergen. It also was nominated for directing.

Other major winners of nominations were ABC's "The Wonder Years" with 14 nominations, ABC's "Thirtysomething" with 13, CBS' "Murphy Brown" with 11, NBC's "The Golden Girls" with 10 and Fox's "The Tracy Ullman Show" with 10.

The syndicated series "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and CBS' "The Beauty and the Beast" each got eight nominations.

The late Lucille Ball has been voted the Academy's Governors Award.

ABC's "The Wonder Years" was nominated as best comedy series and its young star Fred Savage was nominated as best lead actor in a comedy series. Robert Picardo was nominated as best guest actor in a comedy series for his role as the gym instructor Mr Cutlip and Maxine Stuart was nominated as best guest actress as Mrs Carples. It also received three nominations for directing and four for writing.

"Murphy Brown" got the only other writing nomination.

Other nominees for best mini-series were NBC's "I Know My First Name is Steven," PBS' "A Perfect Spy" and ABC's "The Women of Brewster Place."

CBS' "Beauty and the Beast," ABC's "China Beach," ABC's "Thirtysomething" and CBS' "Wiseguy" were nominees as best drama series along with "L.A. Law."

Comedy series nominees along with "The Wonder Years" were NBC's "Cheers," CBS' "Designing Women," NBC's "The Golden Girls" and CBS' "Murphy Brown."

Selected to compete for the best drama or comedy special were ABC's "David," CBS' "Day One," HBO's "Murder Among Us: The Simon Wiesenthal Story," ABC's "My Name is Bill W." and NBC's "Roe vs. Wade."

Nominated as best lead actor in a comedy series along with Savage were Ted Danson for NBC's "Cheers," Richard Mulligan for NBC's "Empty Nest," Michael J. Fox for NBC's "Family Ties" and John Goodman for ABC's "Roseanne."

Lead actress nominees were Blair Brown for Lifetime's "The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd," Candice Bergen for CBS' "Murphy Brown," and Betty White, Beatrice Arthur and Rue McClanahan, all of NBC's "The Golden Girls."

Ron Perlman was nominated as best lead actor in drama series for CBS' "Beauty and the Beast," along with Edward Woodward for CBS' "The Equalizer," Carroll O'Connor for NBC's "In the Heat of the Night," Ken Wahl for CBS' "Wiseguy" and Michael Tucker for "L.A. Law."

Perlman's co-star in "Beauty and the Beast," Linda Hamilton, was nominated as best lead actress in a drama series as were Dana Delany in ABC's "China Beach," Angela Lansbury in CBS' "Murder, She Wrote" and Susan Dey and Jill Eikenberry in "L.A. Law."



A young woman holds the new 'notebook computer'. (Reuters wirephoto)

Laptops slim down, lighten up

## New computer era

TOKYO, Aug. 4, (Reuters): "An office in a briefcase" was the dream of a California computer visionary nearly two decades ago. Now it's nearing reality.

A new generation of "notebook computers" are slim enough to slip into a briefcase or a coat pocket. They are far lighter but just as powerful as bulkier laptops of several years ago. They can send faxes or electronic mail, display moving images, process words or crunch numbers.

Their convenience will bring closer the era in which personal computers are as indispensable as pen and paper, industry analysts said.

To be sure, today's notebook models are not the answer for the experienced computer user addicted to software requiring powerful machines with colour displays.

Most notebook models cannot run for more than a few hours on batteries. They must — and will — become even lighter before becoming standard in a business person's briefcase.

Still, they are getting closer to the dream of computer visionary Alan Kay who in 1972 conceived a small, easy-to-use computer called Dynabook — a dynamic notebook.

American and Japanese companies have taken two approaches to miniaturise and lighten the laptop, which is still better termed "luggable" than "portable."

Toshiba and other firms have kept the standard 3.5 inch floppy disc drive used in most personal computers (PCs) to store files and application programmes.

The advantage of this is compatibility with most laptops and desktop PCs. But the drives are heavy and drain the battery.

Others, from Zenith Data Systems, NEC Corp and other firms, have replaced floppies with IC cards — a package of memory chips packed in a slab the size of a credit card.

IC cards can be read without moving parts, making them lighter, smaller and more efficient and

reliable than floppies, which sometimes die a sudden death if scratched.

Although technically superior, the IC card format suffers from a lack of software and standards, making cards incompatible among different makes.

"I don't think the IC card format will be well accepted until standards are set. It will take two or three years," said Nagayoshi Nakano, an analyst at market research firm Dataquest Japan.

However, one California start-up company, Poquet Computer Corp, plans to use IC cards in what may be the world's smallest computer compatible with an IBM-PC.

Expected later this month at just under \$2,000 the computer weighs just one pound (453 grams) and can slip into a coat pocket. It can run for 100 hours by battery. Poquet is bankrolled and technologically backed by Fujitsu.

Atari Corp and other firms also plan to sell coat-pocket-sized models.

But some say miniaturisation has gone too far.

"It's crucial to have a full-sized keyboard to enter data comfortably," said Dataquest's Nakano.

"The notebook size is the limit. Smaller machines will be used only by salesmen or marketing executives for entering data in the field."

Japanese computer makers seem to concur, and are planning to unleash new notebook-sized models with 3.5 inch floppy drives.

Toshiba, the world's biggest laptop maker, has just begun selling a new model, named Dynabook after Kay's conception.

Analysts expect the six pound (2.7 kg) model to sell well because it is the cheapest of the new range, priced at under 200,000 yen (\$1,450).

"Until now, laptops have been mainly for people whose work involved information processing. But our new machine is for the average person," said Masayuki Sato, a technical strategist at Toshiba.

Sharp, NEC, Fujitsu and others are also developing new notebook models with 3.5 inch floppies.

## Inflatable open boat trio head for North America

LONDON, Aug. 4, (AP): Three men in an inflatable open boat with two outboard engines set off from London down the Thames River on Wednesday aiming to reach North America through Arctic waters in about two weeks.

They said they hope to "bounce off" if they hit an iceberg on the way.

Vaughan Purvis, 35, a polar explorer, said he chose a 4,300-mile (6,900-kilometre) iceberg-filled route for the voyage of the 22-foot (6.7-metre) orange-coloured Arctic

powerboat, sponsored by an oil company.

He said he wants to complete the journey in just over two weeks, which he thinks would be the fastest Europe-America crossing in an open boat, the most northerly Atlantic crossing in an open boat and the longest journey by a rigid-hulled inflatable.

The Guinness Book of Records said it had none of those categories in its long list of trans-Atlantic marine records.

"It's a tough old boat," said Vaughan, a former merchant marine officer who has led

five Arctic expeditions.

"I don't want to say it's unsinkable — that's shades of the Titanic. But it is very difficult to imagine anything sinking it. If we hit an iceberg it should bounce off," he said.

Vaughan, co-pilot Rupert Hadow, 27, and mechanic Kevin Doran, 44, planned to stop overnight Wednesday at Whitby on the Yorkshire coast of northeast England.

Vaughan said they will make the journey in stages because there are no sleeping quarters aboard.



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# New Soviet ecologist faces uphill battle

MOSCOW, Aug. 4. (Reuters): Newly-installed environment chief Nikolai Vorontsov faces an uphill struggle to rescue the Soviet Union from the brink of ecological disaster.

He could also face official resistance which overwhelmed his predecessor and forced him to resign after 18 months.

His immediate problems are nuclear contamination, industrial pollution of the air, rivers and lakes, the closure of beaches

choked by chemical waste and raw sewage and the shrinking of the Aral Sea.

On top of these is severe contamination of large parts of the Ukraine and Byelorussia caused by the explosion and radioactive leak at the Chernobyl nuclear station in April 1986.

Vorontsov hopes to reverse the damage through a new ecological code, with the same force as the criminal and civil codes, which would set out basic rules on

preservation and rational use of natural resources.

"We need most of all a fundamental restructuring in economic relations, to make it no longer economically viable to damage the environment," Vorontsov told the Supreme Soviet when it approved his nomination to the post yesterday.

Growing official awareness that years of industrialisation and huge construction

projects had created major environmental problems led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Committee, the equivalent of a junior ministry, in March 1988.

But soon its first head, Fyodor Morgun, a Communist Party official regarded as a close ally of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, was complaining that his efforts were being smothered by red tape and bureaucratic obstruction.

## Kidnap victim details ordeal

ROME, Aug. 4. (Agencies): A 65-year-old Italian kidnap victim freed in a police raid said yesterday his abductors cut off both his ear lobes because they were unhappy with a letter he had written to his family.

Anti-terrorist police raided the farm in Tuscany and found Florence coffee trader Dante Belardinelli, kidnapped two months ago, in a tent, blindfolded and chained to a tree.

He was flown to Rome where he hugged the men who freed him and told how his ear lobes were cut off because the bandits thought a letter he wrote to his family asking them to pay a ransom was unconvincing.

"One of the bandits asked his comrade for a glove and a scalpel. Then he tied my hands and made me turn my back to him," Belardinelli said.

"He sprayed something on my ears. I think it was alcohol... then he cut one lobe off and the other."

The cheerful Belardinelli, sporting a two-month beard, said his captors had otherwise treated him well but fed him mainly tomatoes and goat's cheese.

Italian kidnap gangs have made a ritual of severing an ear and sending it to the hostage's family to press ransom demands. Belardinelli was the first known kidnap victim to have both ears cut. His abductors had demanded a ransom of five billion lire (\$3.7 million).

One of the first to have an ear severed by Italian bandits was Paul Getty III, grandson of American oil baron John Paul Getty, who was kidnapped in 1973.

Rome police chief Umberto Imbrota said police had arrested 10 members of the gang which held Belardinelli, including one man who was guarding him at the time of the raid.

Last Saturday two members of the gang died and four policemen were wounded in a gun battle on a highway where police had posed as members of his family for a meeting arranged to hand over the ransom.

The police success in finding and freeing Belardinelli cut short a mounting controversy over the decision of Judge Luigi Vigna, the Florence magistrate in charge of the kidnap investigation, to set the ambush for the kidnappers.

Members of Belardinelli's family protested that they would rather have paid the ransom than risk their patriarch being killed by the panicking kidnap gang.

But at a time of national outcry over the kidnapping-for-ransom scourge, with seven victims still in bandits' hands in Italy, police authorities had broad support for their argument that the only way to halt such kidnappings was to prevent ransom money being paid.

Hundreds of police, backed by helicopters and trained dogs, had been combing the area inland from the port city of Grosseto, since Saturday.

## Bloch was spy for '15 years'

He had greater access to US secrets

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. (Agencies): US investigators now believe suspended State Department official Felix Bloch began spying for the Soviet Union when he served in East Berlin 15 years ago, NBC news reported yesterday.

In addition, Bloch had much greater access to US secrets than originally reported, the network quoted high-level sources close to the espionage investigation as saying.

Bloch, the number two official in the US embassy in Vienna from 1983 to 1987, was suspended with pay by the State Department on June 22. He surrendered his diplomatic passport, but no charges have been brought against him.

NBC said Bloch had had access to top-secret technical intelligence, "including that produced by US spy satellites and eavesdropping sites around the world."



Fire rages

Raging fires in the south-east of France and on the island of Corsica, on the Mediterranean Sea, have destroyed some 25,000 hectares of forests in the last forty-eight hours, it was reported here by the Civil Security Service.

High winds blowing in these areas are making it very difficult for the 2,500 fire-brigade men and soldiers sent to give them a helping hand to put out the fires.

Several villages near the fire sites have been completely destroyed and people living in the suburbs of the cities of Marseilles and Nîmes have been evacuated.

Picture shows residents of the village La Fare des Oliviers in southern France leave their homes in a hurry as the fire closes in. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Hurricane changes course

## Warnings lifted

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Aug. 4. (AP): Hurricane Dean has veered away from the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, carrying its 85-mph (130-kph) winds farther out to sea and reducing the threat to the Florida coast.

Weather officials said yesterday the season's second hurricane would probably sweep 150 miles (240 kilometres) north of Puerto Rico on its way up the Atlantic Ocean.

The National Weather Service lifted hurricane and flood warnings for all the islands of the eastern Caribbean, including the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, where authorities had begun putting emergency measures into effect.

The Puerto Rican National Guard cancelled plans to evacuate 2,000 people from flood-prone areas.

A hurricane watch was issued for the Turks and Caicos Islands, a British colony at the southern tip of the Bahamas chain. A watch, which is less serious than a warning, means hurricane conditions could pose a threat to coastal or inland communities.

Dean turned toward the Bahamas but was expected to resume its northwesterly course out to sea later yesterday, the weather service reported.

Bob Sheets, director of the National Hurricane Centre in Coral Gables, Fla., said Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands could get some heavy rain and gusting winds, "but no real problems."

"The biggest problem in the islands is usually flash floods and mudslides, so there is some potential for that," he said, "but it's not going to be as if the core of the storm was coming across there."

## Debate likely

## Painted lady

LONDON, Aug. 4. (AP): A stark new portrait of Queen Mother Elizabeth unveiled yesterday may cause some controversy, officials at the National Gallery say.

The painting, by 23-year-old Alison Watt, shows Britain's most famous great-grandmother without her customary hat, wearing a simple dress and staring almost grimly out of the canvas.

"I think it will shock people for about ten to 15 seconds, then they get used to it, and in six months' time it will be one of the most popular portraits of her," said Robin Gibson, the gallery's curator of 20th century portraits.

"It is taking the lid of the chocolate box," he said. The Queen Mother, who marks her 89th birthday today, is the widow of King George VI and the mother of Queen Elizabeth II.

Ms Watt, of Glasgow, Scotland, admitted that the portrait didn't look particularly royal, but said that was her intention.

"She always appears fluffy, light, wearing flowing clothes, and I wanted to make her more solid. She has a lot of character," Ms Watt said. "I didn't want her to come across as a wee wail."

The Queen Mother, Ms Watt asserted, was happy with the portrait, but that could not be confirmed.



The controversial new portrait of the Queen Mother which went on display at the National Gallery in London on Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 9 million killed by Stalin's policy

MOSCOW, Aug. 4. (Reuters): Nearly nine and a half million peasants died from famine and repression during Josef Stalin's collectivisation of agriculture in the early 1930s, one of the Soviet Union's top population experts said this week.

Presenting the figure in the monthly Molodaya Gvardiya, he posed the daring question: Could the Bolshevik aim of building "a bright communist future" justify the deaths of over 20 million people in the first 20 years of Soviet rule?

"During the period 1931-33, the USSR suffered huge demographic losses — more than 9.4 million people who died of famine, were killed or shot in the campaign against kulaks and the forced collectivisation," Leonid Pereverzev wrote.

The figure is slightly higher than many Western estimates of the toll in the tragedy, which until recently the Soviet Union either denied had happened or simply ignored, with censors preventing any published reference to it.

The subject is now increasingly discussed in public but Pereverzev said that even today "this vast demographic catastrophe... is still passed over in almost total silence by our historians, our press, television and the cinema."

The demographer said the country's then rulers — who during the famine confiscated available grain and maintained exports to finance Stalin's drive to build up industry — were guilty of "a monstrous crime against their own people."

Eyewitness accounts of the period, some of which have appeared in recent Soviet publications, say NKVD Interior Ministry troops seized grain stores and prevented starving peasants and their families from leaving the famine areas.

Basing his calculations on figures produced by official population counts after the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, he said 4.8 million people also died during the 1918-21 civil war and a further 5.9 million in the "Volga Famine" of 1921-23.

This famine, which affected vast areas of Russia and the Ukraine as well as central Asia and Transcaucasia, was largely the outcome of anti-peasant policies promoted by Bolshevik leader and state founder Vladimir Lenin, Pereverzev declared.

From 1918 to late 1921, peasant farmers were forced to deliver almost their entire grain output to the state. Although Lenin subsequently recognised this was a mistake, it was already too late, said the demographer.

As in collectivisation a decade later, the peasants fought back by drastically reducing the areas they sowed and killing most of their animals, which led to food and grain shortages across rich farming areas over the following two years.

## Fine for cruelty

## Biting dog costs £220

LONDON, Aug. 4. (Reuters): A man who bit a mongrel dog after a night's drinking spree was fined £200 (\$330) for cruelty by a British court yesterday.

Shaun Desborough, on his way home in the northern city of Hull, provoked his neighbour's dog which was tied up and barking, said magistrate Andrew Clarkson.

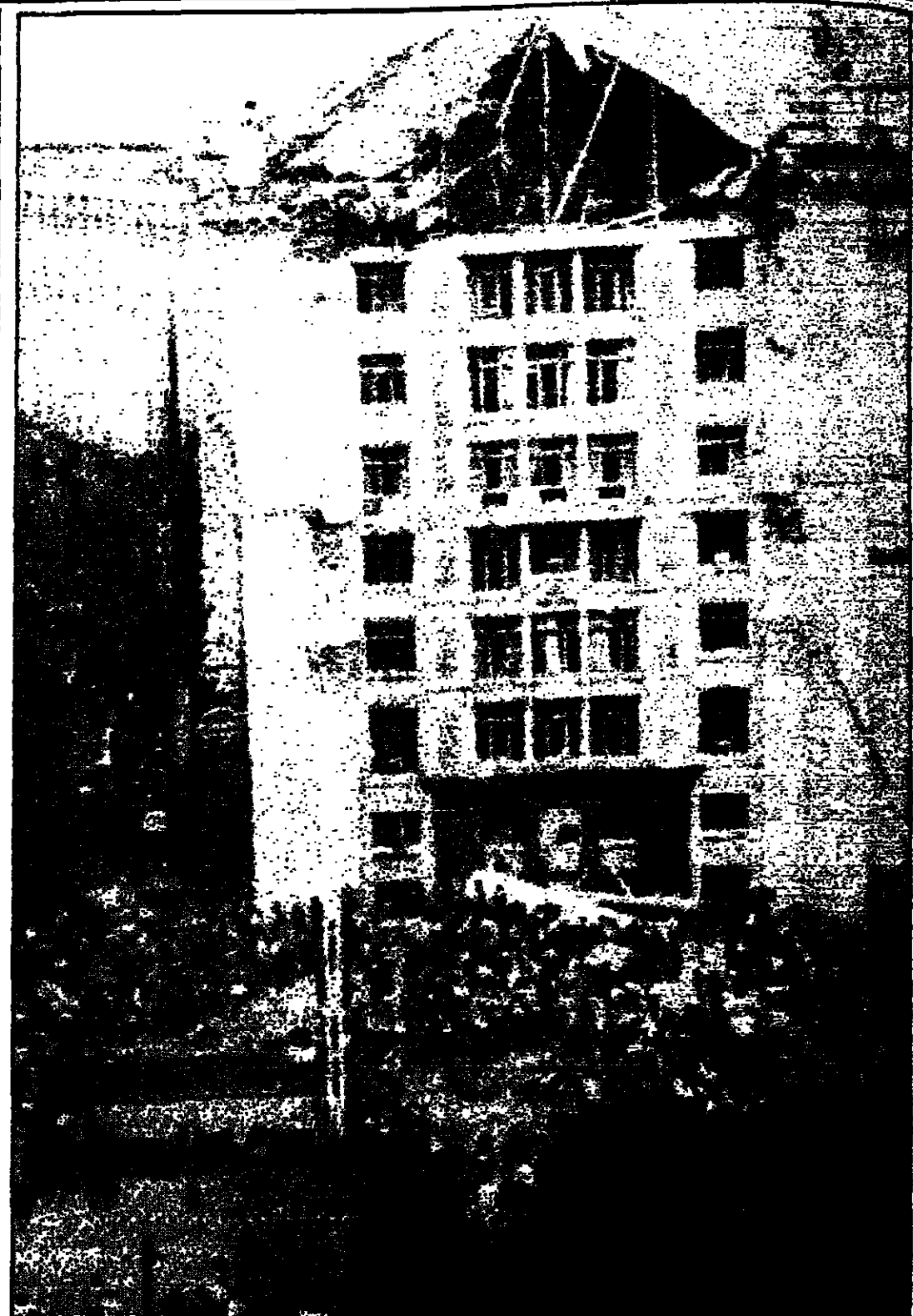
The dog retaliated by biting him. Desborough, who denied cruelty, said he "flipped" and bit the dog back on the face.

Desborough, 25, was also banned from keeping a dog for three years and ordered to pay an additional £233 in costs. The case was brought by the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. (AP): The US House of Representatives yesterday passed legislation liberalising abortion restrictions in the District of Columbia, and President George Bush immediately threatened a veto.

In a letter to US Congress, Bush urged lawmakers to "protect the lives of America's unborn children."

The confrontation came over the first vote



Post office collapse

Eleven people were killed when the portico of the main post office in Kiev collapsed Wednesday, the Tass News Agency said Thursday.

Tass said, "It is believed that the accident was due to violations of engineering standards during the portico's construction, maintenance and repair."

It said that former paratroopers who were holding a reunion nearby on Kiev's main Kreschatik helped pull survivors from beneath the rubble.

Soviet television showed pictures moments after the late

afternoon collapse of the portico at the entrance to the post office.

The post office was built in 1953 with bricks taken from the rubble of houses leveled during World War II battles in the Ukrainian capital, Tass said.

The multistoried post office has been undergoing repairs for the last 18 months, including replacing the facing of four of the portico columns, Tass said.

But Soviet television said Wednesday night that the work has been proceeding very slowly and the entrance of the post office is ensnared in scaffolding.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Clay replica:** An anthropologist who reconstructs faces to help identify murder victims has taken up a case that's 3,400 years old.

Virginia Smith is working on the face of the mummy of Then-Hotep, an Egyptian woman believed to have met a violent death. X-rays taken of the mummy in 1985 revealed that both thigh bones were shattered and her head was crushed.

Smith is making a rubber mold of Then-Hotep's skull and will build a clay replica of the woman's presumed features.

The process involves a series of measurements to indicate the thickness of tissue that would have covered specific points on the skull, following formulas based on sex, age, weight and ethnic background.

Then-Hotep's mummy was damaged in the 1937 Ohio River flood, which washed away the dried skin and the ears and promoted growth of mold on the linen wrappings. The mummy was baked and dried, but has never been restored. (AP)

**Killing of boyfriend:** A homeless woman was sentenced to five to 10 years in prison in the shooting death of her boyfriend, a Vietnam veteran involved in the 1968 My Lai massacre.

Allegheny County common pleas judge Donna Jo McDaniel sentenced Kathleen T'Souvas, 36, on Wednesday for her conviction in the death of Robert T'Souvas, 39, on Sept. 3, 1988.

The homeless couple, who had lived together for nine years, camped in a tent on the bank of the Monongahela River for a month. They fished for food, sold their blood for money and worked part-time at the Jubilee Kitchen Farm.

Ms. T'Souvas told police that on the day of the shooting, she, T'Souvas, and David Bozic, 42, another homeless person, had been drinking and shooting rats and cats with Bozic's .22-caliber handgun.

Police found T'Souvas with a bullet in his head at their camp. (AP)

**Photographs exhibition:** Photographs by a woman involved in an infamous US child abuse case will be displayed at a Long Island, New York, gallery this month, demonstrating what her psychiatrist says is "a return to her identity."

Hedda Nussbaum's 12 black-and-white nature photographs — one of a soft, white rose, another of a rabbit — will be exhibited at the Romany Kramoris Gallery in Sag Harbor Aug. 19-Sept. 22. They will sell for \$125 to \$275.

Ms. Nussbaum calls the collection "signs of life." She and Joel Steinberg were arrested in November 1986 in the beating death of the 6-year-old girl named Lisa they had raised in their Manhattan home. Charges were dropped against Ms. Nussbaum. During Steinberg's trial, she testified that she repeatedly was battered by her longtime companion. (AP)

**Tipsey driver:** A midnight motor race between a tipsy West German housewife and her son ended when the woman's car ploughed into a column of marching soldiers, seriously injuring five, police said today.

The 41-year-old woman lost control of her car on a bridge near this Southern town last night. It hit eight soldiers, flinging some into the river.

Four soldiers were in critical condition in hospital. Neither the woman nor her 20-year-old son was hurt. (Reuters)

**Actor escapes:** A young Polish actor who stars in a new Danish film jumped out of a window and fled Swedish police who came to extradite him and his family, the boy's director said yesterday.

He said police appeared at the family apartment last Monday (7-31) to inform the four they were to be sent back to Poland that evening. No reason was given for the extradition.

"Adam jumped out the window and disappeared," said Magnusson, who added the rest of the family were repatriated to Poland that evening by ferry.

Kozlowski has chosen from 1200 other youngsters to play the main part in Magnusson's new Danish film about a young boy travelling through Europe. (UPI)

**Woman bigamist:** A woman arrested for bigamy told authorities it was sheer insanity to get married twice. But that was only half the story.

"I'm crazy," said Donna Howell. "I ain't got no sense."

Donna Howell's two marriages were reported to police by the second of her two husbands, Mike Howell. He said he turned her in because she left him and he wanted her back.

"I still love her," Mike Howell said hours after his wife was arrested on Wednesday. "I just want her to come back."

Donna Howell, an 18-year-old Gastonia factory worker, acknowledged she is married to two men but was puzzled that Mike Howell would turn her in — because he's a bigamist, too. (UPI)

**Pleads innocent:** A suspended student accused of creating a computer "worm" that paralysed an estimated 6,000 US military and research computers last year pleaded innocent to a federal crime on Wednesday.

Robert T. Morris, 24, of Arnold, Maryland, entered his plea in a five-minute arraignment before US magistrate Gustave Dibianco. He was released on his own recognisance.

The suspended Cornell University graduate student was charged last week with a single count of gaining unauthorized access to computers, preventing authorized access to computers and causing losses in excess of \$1,000 under the computer fraud and abuse act of 1986.

It was the first time the Justice Department brought felony charges against an individual under the 3-year-old law. (AP)

**Remains support:** An analysis of the remains of five gold prospectors who died in 1874 supports cannibal Alfred Packer's claim that he killed only one, experts say.

Packer, who had led the gold expedition in the Rockies, said one man killed the four others with repeated hatchet blows while Packer was away from camp. Packer said he killed that man in self-defense and survived the winter on the flesh of the dead.

"Four of the five were repeatedly hacked," James Starrs, professor of law and forensic at George Washington University, said Tuesday, summing up the laboratory findings. "If ever there was demonstrative evidence of cannibalism, this is it."

The analysis at the human identification laboratory at the University of Arizona also concluded that knife marks on the bones appear "consistent with a conscious effort to deflesh the deceased bodies," Starrs said. (AP)

## Bush warns to veto law relaxing DC abortion

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. (AP): The US House of Representatives yesterday passed legislation liberalising abortion restrictions in the District of Columbia, and President George Bush immediately threatened a veto.

In a letter to US Congress, Bush urged lawmakers to "protect the lives of America's unborn children."

The confrontation came over the first vote

in either House of Congress since the supreme court ruling last month permitting states to impose further restrictions on abortion.

On a 238-189 vote, the chamber approved a bill providing \$532 million in federal funds for the district's government that contained the abortion provision.

The White House yesterday released a letter Bush sent Congress on Wednesday

threatening the veto.

"If the bill presented to me permits the use of appropriated funds to pay for abortions other than those where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, I will veto it," Bush wrote Rep. Julian C. Dixon, a California Democrat, chairman of the appropriations subcommittee on the District of Columbia.



# KAL to appeal guilty verdict

SEOUL, Aug. 4. (Agencies): Korean Air Lines will fight a US court ruling that the crew's willful misconduct caused one of its planes to stray into Soviet airspace in 1983 where it was shot down, a company spokesman said yesterday.

"We do not agree with the final decision and we are planning to appeal to a higher court... as soon as possible," said KAL spokesman Lee Taek-Young. The airline, still reeling from the crash last week of a KAL DC-10 in Tripoli, did not believe the legal battle over the 1983 disaster of Flight 007 was finished, he said.

"The final conclusion of KAL Flight 007 is still pending in a higher court. Right now we have to do our best to ease the souls of the families of the victims of the Tripoli accident," Lee said.

A US federal jury on Wednesday ruled that lawyers had proved the crew of Flight 007 acted recklessly by straying into Soviet airspace in the North Atlantic on Sept. 1, 1983.

Soviet fighters, which had shot down intruders in the area, destroyed the plane killing all aboard and sparking an international outcry. Moscow accused the airline of a "deliberate" act, and the aircraft was shot down and the wreckage was recovered in the sea.

Lee said the decision contradicted a South Korea court which, hearing a damages claim by relatives of one Korean victim, ruled in 1988 that the airline had not committed any grave error to invite the incident.

Lee said almost all of the other victims' relatives not involved in the US lawsuit had received compensation.

Early yesterday morning, 68 victims of the Tripoli disaster were flown to Seoul for identification.

"Most airlines have an accident every three or four years," Lee said. "007 was concerned with politics, the two have no similarities."

KAL officials have said 73 out of the 199 people on board the DC-10 were killed when the airliner ploughed through houses and orchards in a ball of fire at Tripoli airport. Six Libyans on the ground were also killed.

A KAL team and a Libyan Commission of Inquiry have not come to any conclusions on the cause of the crash. The plane's two "black box" flight recorders, still held by Libyan authorities, would be transferred to independent investigators when the Libyans decided who to send it to, Lee said.

Four of the five bodies left in Tripoli were Libyans, Lee said. The other was a Japanese woman, married to a Libyan.

He said a South Korean construction worker, Lee Jong-Kyu, 27, was still in a Libyan hospital in intensive care.

Relatives of the victims, who have harassed KAL officials all week over inconsistent death tolls and information delays, will not be allowed to see the bodies until they are examined at the National Institute of Scientific Investigation.

An error by the pilot was believed to be the main cause of last week's crash of a South Korean airliner at Libya's Tripoli Airport, a senior government official was quoted as saying yesterday.

The assessment, which the newspaper Chosun Ilbo said Vice Transportation Minister Cho Kyong-Shik made to a group of lawmakers, would be the first official statement holding pilot Kim Ho-Jung responsible for the crash.

The report could not be immediately confirmed independently.



Emergency landing

A Piedmont Airlines jet carrying 107 people made an emergency landing with its left wing and engine scraping the runway Wednesday after its landing gear jammed, officials said. No injuries were reported.

A flash of flame and smoke erupted from the left wing of Flight 1488 as the new Boeing 737 dragged the runway at Piedmont Triad International Airport here in a landing seen live on a state-wide TV network of six stations.

Passengers slid down emergency chutes after the aircraft landed about 10.55 am (1455 GMT). Emergency crews sprayed foam on the engine.

The plane, which was bound for Charlotte, North Carolina, was diverted to Piedmont Triad International Airport, the site of Piedmont's maintenance hangar, after the instrument panel indicated the landing gear had not locked, officials said.

The pilot "circled for better than an hour in an attempt to get all the gear down," said US Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Roger Myers. The pilot got the nose wheel and right landing gear down, but not the left gear, Myers said.

Emergency vehicles lined the runway, waiting the landing, and the airport was closed to other traffic, the airline said. Airline spokesman David Shipley said the pilot burned off most of his fuel to reduce the risk of fire.

Before landing, the pilot touched down the plane to test its landing gear, and that indicated the two wheels down

were locked, said Piedmont spokeswoman Susan Young. Shipley said the runway was not foamed beforehand because it would have taken too long.

The National Transportation Safety Board will investigate to determine the cause of the malfunction, Myers said. Picture above shows Piedmont Airliner making the emergency landing. Below passengers scrambling off the flight. (Reuters wirephoto)



Emergency landing

tony Broderick, head of FAA safety regulations, said the planes would not be grounded.

"There are no design flaws in the DC-10 or any other aircraft presently flying that warrant grounding," he said. Commenting on the task force, Broderick said that safety improvements to protect flight control systems "are within the realm of technical and economic feasibility."

The task force, he said, would include experts from the FAA, airlines, manufacturers, industry groups and foreign aviation safety officials. The review eventually will cover all airliners that rely on hydraulic controls, including those built by McDonnell Douglas, Boeing, Lockheed and

the European Airbus Consortium, he said. Failure of hydraulic systems, Broderick said, indicates the need for considering an extra level of safety in airlines. The task force will be asked to come up with "a system or a modification of existing systems" to allow an airliner to fly and land safely even with complete hydraulic failure.

The FAA approves design, construction, testing and operation of all planes used by US carriers. Many foreign governments follow its lead.

The FAA said the study also would cover engine design "with an eye toward possibly preventing crippling damage to an aircraft in the event of an engine explosion."

## US to study possible design changes in DC-10s

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. (AP): A US government task force will study possible design changes in DC-10s and another wide-body jetliners that would allow pilots to retain control after an engine blows up or other equipment fails in flight.

The Federal Aviation Administration's announcement yesterday of the creation of the government and industry task force came two weeks after the crash of a United Airlines DC-10 that killed 111 people in Sioux City, Iowa. An explosive engine failure apparently destroyed the plane's hydraulic flight controls.

The agency said similar incidents involving a Japan Air

Lines Boeing 747 in 1985 and an Eastern Airlines L-1011 in 1981 indicate design changes may be needed to further protect flight-control systems while the plane is in the air.

All three planes, each built by a different manufacturer, lost hydraulic power that controls wing and tail surfaces. US Sen. Howard Metzenbaum called on the government agency to consider grounding all DC-10s.

In a letter to the agency, Metzenbaum cited news accounts saying that lives might have been saved in the Iowa crash if the DC-10 had four rather than three hydraulic systems or a shut-off valve to prevent hydraulic fluid loss.

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## Plane crash kills 34

Rescue teams find no survivors aboard Olympic flight

ATHENS, Greece, Aug. 4. (AP): All 34 persons aboard an Olympic Airlines plane which slammed into a mountainside on the Aegean island of Samos, were dead, rescue teams reported today.

The plane was en route from Salonica, northern Greece, to Samos, off Turkey's western coast when it crashed yesterday about 5:00 pm (1400 GMT).

Olympic officials said that eight of the passengers had booked their tickets in Toronto raising the possibility they were Canadian citizens.

The airline said four males including an infant, and one woman were from the Orphanides family. The others were identified as B. Alexopoulos, F. Kazantzoglou, both males, and Mrs. C. Hristou.

The Canadian embassy in Athens said they were checking the names with their Foreign Office in Ottawa.

An Army officer who led a military rescue team through rugged terrain to the top of Kourmies mountain, said that no survivors were found among the wreckage.

"There were bodies everywhere in the plane's wreckage. Bloodied clothing and baggage were scattered all around," he said by telephone from the island.

Officials ruled out the possibility that sabotage could have been involved in the crash.

"It appears that thick fog in the area at the time played the villains' role as the pilot flew blindly into the mountain," said an Olympic official who asked not to be identified by name.

He added that pilots fly "visually" on the flights to the small Aegean islands that Olympic services.

Transport and Communications Minister Nikos Geliasthis also told lawmakers in Parliament this morning that a terrorist act had been ruled out as possible cause of the accident.

Within hours of the crash, Geliasthis said the 31 passengers and three crew members aboard the prop plane had been identified as Greeks.

Officials at first believed the plane went down one or two miles (kilometres) off Samos' northwestern coast after three life jackets were found floating in the sea. An air and sea search failed to uncover further evidence that the plane crashed in the sea.

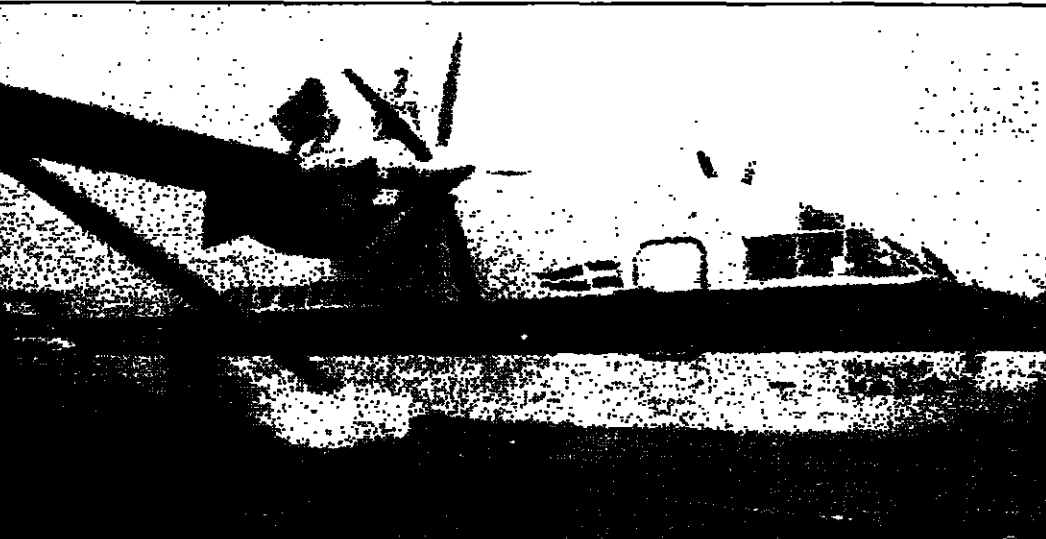
Later, a shepherd reported hearing a loud explosion on the mountain and saw a fire, prompting the military to dispatch troops to the area to conduct a search.

The troops arrived at the scene after midnight and radioed back that no one was found alive among the wreckage. Helicopters were called in to pick up the dead.

Officials said search teams



A man is comforted early this morning at Athens Airport as he and other relatives of the crash victims who were aboard the Olympic Aviation twin-engine aircraft that crashed last evening on Samos await their flight to the island to help in the identification of the bodies. (Reuters wirephoto)



Mechanics check the engines of an Olympic Aviation British built twin-engine Short Brothers plane shortly before take-off from Athens Airport yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

were looking through the wreckage of the British-built 30-seat short twin-engine plane for its flight recorder as part of their investigation into the cause of the crash.

The plane disappeared from Salonica and Athens airport radar screens when it was about 25 miles (40 kilometres) northwest of Samos, officials said.

Athens airport duty officer Emmanuel Frangiadakis said yesterday that the control tower had lost contact with the aircraft at about 4:55 pm (1355 GMT) on hour after it took off from Salonica.

The plane's pilot, Petros Moutzouras, was described by Olympic officials as a veteran with an outstanding safety record. The plane, named the Isle of Milos, was built in 1981 and

was used for flights among the Greek islands. The terrain where the plane crashed is so steep and treacherous that rescuers had to crawl on their hands and knees up the mountain in darkness early today to reach it.

Only the aft section of the plane was intact. The front part had disintegrated from the impact and was just a black scar on the mountainside. A wing and the twin-tail section of the British built Shorts aircraft were the only parts that were recognisable.

Police were able to identify only 4 of the plane's occupants. And only the infant's body remained completely intact from the crash.

Helicopters were unable to land close to the crash site and

rescuers had to crawl on their hands and knees for 90 minutes to reach it.

No attempts were made to carry the dead down the mountain because of the steepness of the terrain.

"We'll have the helicopters hoist out the human remains," said police officer Panayiotis Kurdonouris, who headed a contingent guarding the area. "For the time being we will have to leave the bodies untouched," he added.

Police burned herbal shrubs to ward of the stench of rotting flesh permeating the area.

Rescuers who struggled to the crash site an hour after midnight yesterday (2200 GMT), said they could smell the burning flesh from 1,000 metres (about 1,000 yards) away.

## Relatives angry Inquiry sought on jet bombing

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. (AP): Several angry relatives of victims lost in the shooting down of a Pan American World Airways jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, renewed their demand for a wide-ranging congressional investigation Wednesday.

"It is now four months since we met with President (George) Bush and all 100 Senators to request an investigation of the weak security and the failure to act on high level warnings issued to the (Federal Aviation Administration), the State Department and the airline" before the Dec 21 incident, said Paul Hudson, father of Melina Hudson one of the victims.

"We are surprised and disappointed that the Bush administration has adamantly opposed a Congressional investigation or the appointment of a special commission at every turn," Hudson told a Capitol Hill news conference.

**Passengers survive:** Thirty-two passengers aboard a transport plane survived a crash in the northwestern Afghan town of Qala Nua on Wednesday, Kabul Radio said yesterday.

"All passengers of the plane were rescued but the plane was completely out of action," the official broadcast, monitored in Islamabad said.

The state-run Ariana Afghan Airline plane slammed into a hanger after a flight from Kabul. (Reuters)

**Plane crashes:** A twin-engine plane crashed on takeoff, getting barely aloft before tumbling to the ground and exploding in flames. Six people were killed, authorities said.

The Beechcraft Queen Air BE-80 was bound for Akron, Ohio, when it crashed Wednesday, according to William Hoefer, an air traffic controller at Southwest Georgia Regional Airport.

In another incident in Florida, a single-engine plane crashed in the front yard of a home shortly after takeoff, killing the two people aboard, officials said. (AP)

**Pilot killed:** A Soviet military plane crashed in western Poland, killing the pilot and severely burning a child who was in a house set afire by parts of the plane, official media reported Wednesday.

The Express Wiczorny newspaper said a MiG-2 crashed Tuesday morning rammed into a hill in Lewice, 360 kilometres (222 kilometres) west of Warsaw. The pilot was killed on the spot, the newspaper said. (AP)

**Body recovered:** Divers pulled another body from a submerged mobile work platform in the Gulf of Mexico early yesterday, raising to four the number of victims recovered from the vessel that capsized trying to reach port ahead of hurricane Chantal, the Coast Guard said.

Six other crewmen remained missing. Commercial divers contracted by Chevron Oil Co. continued searching for them as a Coast Guard cutter stood by the site 20 miles offshore.

Four members of the 14-man crew of the Avco Five were rescued from the Gulf after the leased vessels flipped and sank in rough seas before dawn Monday. (AP)

**10 Soviets die:** Two training ships were lost in the Azov Sea and the bodies of 10 people who were on board washed ashore, the official news agency Tass reported yesterday.

The agency said the ships were part of a nine-ship training mission that was organized by a club of young sailors in the port city of Mariupol, some 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) south of Moscow on the Azov Sea.

The flotilla set out July 15 and all but two ships arrived at their scheduled destinations, it said. The other two, with a total of 12 sailors on board, were reported July 28 to have been located at Kosa Dolga, a peninsula on the sea. On Monday, the bodies of 10 sailors washed ashore. (AP)

**Italy approves:** The Italian government approved a \$200 million aid package today for hotels and fishermen suffering because of slimy algae polluting the Adriatic coast.

The draft law, approved at a cabinet meeting, is for emergency aid worth \$275 billion lire (\$200 million) for businesses in the area, where thousands of worried tourists have cancelled holidays because of the dirty-white algae.

Officials said the draft law would be rushed through Parliament and was the first stage of a total \$600-million rescue plan. (Reuters)

**US to study:** A new US laboratory will study environmental stress on plants and develop new breeds better able to resist it.

The US Agriculture Department said on Wednesday it has established a laboratory to study the adverse impact of global climate changes on agriculture and develop new breeds of hardier plants.

## Pilot association backs off threat to turn off recorders

DALLAS, Aug. 4. (AP): The Air Line Pilots Association on Wednesday backed off a threat to turn off cockpit voice recorders if the US Congress and federal agencies don't prevent release of cockpit tapes.

Henry A. Duffy, president of the Air Line Pilots Association, said at a news conference that he received assurances that the US Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board will seek legislation.

Duffy issued the threat following the

release under a judge's order Tuesday of tapes of a Delta jet that crashed on take off last August, killing 14 people. More than 90 passengers survived.

Those tapes showed that in the minutes before the crash of Flight 1141 at the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, the crew joked that a plane wreck would one day expose their gleeful cockpit conversation to the public.

The conversation involved the cabin crew and a flight attendant who was for-

bidden by law to be in the cabin while the plane was in motion.

Prior to the news conference, Duffy said if "immediate and direct action" is not taken, "I will be instructing our members to deactivate their recording devices until this shameful abuse is corrected."

FAA spokesman John Leyden said turning off the recorders would violate FAA rules. He said the FAA has an agreement with pilots that no enforcement action will be taken as a result of what is said on the

tapes. At a hearing in November, NTSP investigators rigorously questioned the crew about the apparent idle nature of the conversation when they should have been going over pre-flight checklists.

District Judge Adolph Canales released the tape over objections of a Delta Air Lines lawyer who argued the recording should be made available only to parties in liability suits stemming from the crash of the Boeing 727.

## Soviets agree to US demand

GENEVA, Aug. 4. (AP): The Soviet Union has agreed to US demands aimed at starting inspections of chemical arms sites as early as possible before a global ban on the weapons is settled, officials of both sides said yesterday.

Moscow's shift was conveyed in a memorandum from Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to US Secretary of State James Baker when they met in Paris last week. Soviet disarmament official Nikita Smidovich told reporters in Moscow.

The Soviets have now accepted the US position that joint inspections of each other's chemical weapons stockpiles should begin even before a global ban is ready for initialing, a Soviet delegate to the Geneva conference on disarmament said.

Moscow previously wanted to allow checks only after the treaty was completed and signed by governments, and the shift was aimed at clearing the way for earliest possible inspections, the Soviet official said.

The 40-nation disarmament conference has been debating a comprehensive convention to ban chemical weapons for more than two decades, but delegates have little hope of getting the draft accord ready in the immediate future.

The Soviet shift in Paris was part of separate superpower talks on chemical weapons.

The United States and Soviet Union, who have the world's biggest poison gas arsenals, say these talks can help the 40-nation negotiations but not substitute for progress there.

Disputes at the conference include how to monitor compliance with a future ban.

When the latest round of bilateral talks ended in June, both superpowers reported agreement on technical procedures for on-the-spot inspections, though the United States, which has always sought strict rules for industrial confidentiality, played down the accord.

Moscow expects on-site checks to back its official position that it has no more than 50,000 tonnes of chemical armaments. Some Western analysts have said the Soviet stockpile is more than six times bigger.

Also yesterday, both superpowers indicated that the latest round in separate US-Soviet talks on reducing long-range nuclear forces has made some progress, but that disagreements on major issues remain.

Soviet head delegate Yuri Nazarkin reiterated that Moscow views US plans for space-based missile defenses as the main obstacle to a start accord, which would reduce each side's arsenal of long-range missiles and heavy bombers by up to half.

Both officials were briefing the disarmament conference about the talks, which recess next Monday after a seven-week session.

Referring to a US proposal for testing anti-cheating measure before a treaty is completed, Nazarkin said the Soviets will "carefully analyse all of its aspects."

In other developments, Switzerland plans to broaden the scope of export control on chemical products to include equipments that could be used to manufacture chemical weapons, the Swiss Foreign Secretary Claus Jacob said yesterday.

Addressing the conference on disarmament, Jacob stressed the need for drawing up soon a comprehensive agreement for a total ban on chemical weapons.

"Switzerland rejects chemical weapons in every form and manifestation and condemns any use of them. That is why we are highly concerned at the fact that they are proliferating," he said.

The Pentagon announced yesterday a successful "star wars" test that demonstrated key technologies needed to locate an enemy missile and guide an intercepting rocket to destroy it.

In the test conducted Tuesday in a special hangar at Edwards Air Force Base, California, an intercepter test vehicle hovered 30 feet (9 m) in the air and, using a sophisticated infrared sensor, found and was able to "lock on" to a relatively dim missile nearby in the presence of a bright plume from a rocket motor.

At the same time, the vehicle used its engines to manoeuvre to remain locked onto the missile.

US and Soviet arms negotiators met today for the final full meeting in the latest round of talks aimed at a treaty to reduce each side's long-range nuclear forces by half.

The round, the first since President George Bush took office, formally ends Monday with a meeting of the two delegation heads, Yuri Nazarkin and Richard Burt.



## INTERNATIONAL

# UN is sending team to border

BANGKOK, Thailand, Aug. 4. (Agencies): A United Nations fact-finding mission dispatched by an international conference in Paris will visit the embattled Thai-Cambodian border and Cambodia's interior, a Thai official said today.

The team, led by Norwegian Lt. Gen. Martin O. Vadset, was scheduled to arrive in Bangkok Sunday and leave for Cambodia's capital of Phnom Penh Monday, said Kobsak Chutikul, of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department.

The Paris conference, which opened July 30, is sending the team to gather information for formation of an international body to monitor Vietnam's troop withdrawal from Cambodia. Vietnam has pledged to remove all its troops by late September.

Vietnam invaded Cambodia in late 1978. Its troops and those of the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh are fighting a three-party guerrilla coalition, which is also a party to the talks.

Kobsak said the 20 members of the UN team are from Norway, India, Canada, Malaysia, Indonesia, France and Australia.

He said the team will visit Cambodia for a week before spending Aug 14-19 studying the situation along the Thai-Cambodia border and holding talks with Thai Foreign Ministry and military officials.

## Unity

Meanwhile, the Khmer Rouge, accused of attempted genocide against its own people when it ruled Cambodia, has said it is assured of international support, and cited the need for unity among the country's anti-Vietnamese factions.

"We hold that unity of the three resistance factions is a matter of life or death for us," Khmer Rouge president Khieu Samphan told a small group of reporters in Paris yesterday.

Khieu Samphan, whose movement is blamed in the West for the deaths of a million people when it ruled Cambodia in 1975-79, spoke confidently of international support.

"I am sure that will continue," he said.

Since the 19-nation talks began on Sunday, the Khmer Rouge, at the core of a Chinese-backed guerrilla coalition, has been pitted in complex and acrimonious negotiations with the Vietnamese-installed government of Hun Sen.

Khieu Samphan said he had reluctantly agreed that the UN team be sent to Cambodia next week to avoid stalling the talks.

"First, (we feared) it would lend recognition to the Phnom Penh regime and second, that it would be used by Vietnam, in one way or another, to lend credit to its so-called unilateral (army) withdrawal," he said.

A Cambodian resistance commander yesterday rejected the Phnom Penh government's statements that Vietnamese troops have withdrawn from Cambodia, charging that at least 200,000 regular troops and undercover agents still remain.

"The Hanoi authorities have not withdrawn their troops from Cambodia. They have withdrawn only disabled, sick, weak and incapable soldiers for rest," said Son Sen, commander-in-chief of the Khmer Rouge, the most powerful of the three Cambodian resistance armies.

The charge set the stage for the Khmer Rouge to reject any peace settlement based on the total Vietnamese withdrawal due in September and to escalate its attacks on the unproven forces of the Hanoi-backed Cambodian government.

## History

If history does indeed repeat itself, the latest international conference to end war in Indochina is doomed to failure.

If it succeeds, it may be because many delegates claim to have learned from the failures of conferences past.

Again and again, attempts to cobble together peace settlements for Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos at Western conferences have proved abortive or short-lived. The clinking of champagne glasses in European salons was soon echoed by gunfire in far-away jungles and rice paddies.

Leaders of non-communist nations in Southeast Asia are disappointed by the talks but still hope for a peaceful settlement, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammed said yesterday.

But talks between Cambodian Premier Hun Sen and leaders of the three-party Cambodian rebel alliance led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk reached an impasse July 25 after two days of negotiations.

# Tension over boat people comes to a head

## Hong Kong residents forced to act as hosts

HONG KONG, Aug. 4. (AP): As the muggy summer stretches into August, long-simmering tension over the skyrocketing population of Vietnamese boat people is nearing the boiling point in this British colony.

Hong Kong residents are increasingly bitter about being forced to act as hosts to the more than 50,000 Vietnamese now languishing in teeming camps after sailing from their communist homeland in wooden boats in search of a better life.

And the detained boat people could become increasingly difficult to control if Britain and Vietnam agree to a programme of forcible repatriation.

More than 23,000 boat people sailed into Hong Kong between May and July, an 84 per cent jump from the same period last year. Nearly 52,000 Vietnamese were in the colony by the beginning of August.

Efforts to resettle the Vietnamese in third countries have lagged, creating a severe shortage of space for the new arrivals.

Existing detention centres are overcrowded. Riots broke out in two camps late last month, one after guards tried to prevent boat people from slipping through holes cut in the surrounding fence and another after a squabble between Vietnamese women from rival groups.

Police reinforcements were called in to restore order in each case. Relief agencies reported that the Vietnamese claimed they were handled roughly by the police.

"When large numbers of people are kept cooped up in camps, particularly in hot weather, there is bound to be a great deal of discomfort and frustration," secretary of security Geoffrey Barnes said after the first disturbance.

"Temperatures become short and incidents are bound to occur occasionally," he said.

Government plans to build new makeshift camps to house the flood of newcomers have met resistance from local Hong Kong residents. In the most recent example, scores of villagers pitched tents on a construction site this week to stop work on a new detention centre in rural Sai Kung.

The villagers say they fear the boat people will pollute the water in an adjacent reservoir. Among the dozens of colourful banners they placed around their protest campsite were some reading: "The boat people problem has gone beyond the limits of forbearance," and "we are indignant. Immediately repatriate the boat people."

Reports of boat people escaping, of severe staffing shortages at the detention centres and alleged police brutality toward the Vietnamese have added to the crisis atmosphere. Raymond Chung, a local official who represents a district that houses a detention centre, said his constituents now are more concerned about the boat people than the violent crackdown on dissent in Beijing.



A group of Hakka women, sporting their traditional hats demonstrate today along with hundreds who continued to halt the construction of the refugee camp near Hifi Island reservoir by occupying the site. (Reuters wirephoto)



## Agricultural talks

Kumander Dante (right) who founded the Philippine guerrilla New People's Army 20 years ago, talks with farmers near rice fields at an agricultural co-operative he heads in Tarlac province, north of Manila. He says the underground movement he left has now lost support of the peasants and is self-destructing. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Aquino, Mahathir discuss claim

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei, Aug. 4. (AP): Leaders of Malaysia and the Philippines discussed Manila's claim to the Malaysian State of Sabah yesterday but gave no indication of a breakthrough in their dispute.

The issue was raised during private talks between Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad and Philippine President Corazon Aquino, who attended rituals Wednesday marking the coming of age of the eldest son of Brunei's Sultan Hassan Bolkiah.

Last year, Aquino sent the Philippine Congress a bill proposing to drop the country's claim to Sabah, but the senate shelved the measure in the absence of concessions from Malaysia.

Aquino's spokesman, Adolfo Azcuna, said the Philippine president planned to brief Mahathir on a new version of the bill that would drop the claim.

Azcuna said Aquino "proposed that we will both work together to solve this problem." He said he did not know any other details of the private talks.

The Philippine claim to Sabah, on the island of Borneo, has strained relations between the Philippines and Malaysia, partners in the six-member association of South Asian Nations. Malaysia currently governs the province.

Manila's claim nearly resulted in a break in diplomatic relations during the administration of former President Ferdinand Marcos.

Before leaving Manila on Wednesday, Aquino told reporters she did not expect to resolve anything during her talks with Mahathir, but that the session would be a good opportunity to discuss bilateral issues.

The administration's new bill would redefine Philippine boundaries to exclude Sabah. But it would include portions of the spratly islands in the South China Sea, another source of friction between Manila and Kuala Lumpur.

China, Vietnam and Taiwan also claim the islands.

The Philippines also wants guarantees that the Malaysian government will not allow Sabah to be used as a training ground and weapons smuggling point for Filipino Muslim rebels.

Islamic insurgents have been fighting for nearly 20 years for self-rule in the southern Philippines. The insurgency, however, peaked in the 1970s and has largely been reduced to banditry.

On Tuesday, Aquino signed into law legislation establishing an autonomous region in Mindanao and other southern islands. About five per cent of the country's 58 million people are Muslim.

On Wednesday, Philippine Rep Jose de Venecia, acting chairman of the house foreign relations committee, and Rep Pablo Ocampo, assistant house majority leader, offered a nine-point plan to resolve the Sabah issue.

The plan calls for "joint political will by both sides" to drop the Philippine claim to Sabah within one year and for negotiations between Malaysia and the Filipino heirs of the former Sultan of Sulu, whose descendants demand compensation for the territory.

# Lankan rebels kill top Buddhist monk

## Delhi-Colombo talks end without agreement

COLOMBO, Aug. 4. (Agencies): Sinhalese radicals shot and killed a leading Buddhist priest in his temple, and appeared to have succeeded in enforcing their call for a daylong anti-government strike today, police said.

The priest, Kotikawatte Saddhatissa, was killed last night by six gunmen in a Colombo temple, police said. The gunmen were suspected members of the anti-government People's Liberation Front, a group of Sinhalese extremists, said police officials who asked not to be identified.

Saddhatissa, 72, and a supporter of President Ranasinghe Premadasa, was the second religious leader killed by the radicals. In February, the Front's gunmen killed Bodaramulle Subhita, the head priest of the Kalutara temple, 40 kilometres (25 miles) south of Colombo.

Sinhalese-language posters signed by the Front warned businessmen to close shops and workers to stay at home today to protest the killing of 150 people by government security forces a week ago.



Policemen near a row of shops that closed in Sri Lanka today during a strike by leftist rebels who are campaigning to topple the government. (Reuters wirephoto)

Police and witnesses said the daylong strike appeared to be successful as the usually-bustling capital of 600,000 people was deserted at 2.30 pm (0900 GMT). Shops and offices were closed and vehicles stayed off city streets.

In the Sinhalese-dominated South, few people stepped out of their homes, said residents contacted by telephone.

At least 150 people were killed July 28 when supporters of the radicals defied a nation-wide curfew and demonstrated against the continued presence of Indian troops on the island.

The government had earlier warned that curfew violations would be shot on sight to prevent what it calls a campaign of terror by the Sinhalese militants. The curfew remains in effect from dusk to dawn.

Authorities blame the radicals for at least 4,000 killings and a series of crippling strikes since the start of an anti-government uprising two years ago.

In New Delhi, talks between Sri Lankan and Indian delegations on the withdrawal of Indian troops from the island appeared to have ended without an agreement.

An official at the Sri Lankan high commission, or embassy, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the talks were over. The Statesman newspaper said the discussions "were on the verge of breaking down" yesterday because of disagreements between the two governments.

Neither side called the talks a failure, apparently wanting to leave open the possibility of further sessions.

An Indian spokesman called the talks inconclusive, but was at pains to put them in a positive light after the two countries pulled back from a major crisis started by a Sri Lankan demand that the Indian troops leave by last Saturday.

"There were large areas of understanding and a better appreciation of each other's concerns," Foreign Ministry spokesman A. B. Sethi told reporters.

"The Sri Lankan delegation is carrying back ideas and specific suggestions which have emerged during the discussions," he said.

The Sri Lankans left tonight saying in a statement only that the talks had ended and they would report to Premadasa.

After that "both sides may decide on how to proceed further," the Indian spokesman said.

Official sources said India was willing to hold a second round of talks in Colombo.

Six Indian soldiers and five Tamil Tiger militants were killed in a gunbattle yesterday, Indian officials said in New Delhi.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the gunbattle took place in the jungles of the northern Jaffna peninsula. Some civilians also were killed, they said.

Suspected Sinhalese rebels attacked the main police armoury in the Sri Lankan capital on Wednesday night and escaped in two hijacked police trucks loaded with weapons, police said.

Police said at least three policemen and some rebels were injured in the clash.

## Heroin found in UN vehicle

# UNHCR denies

GENEVA, Aug. 4. (AP): A spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees today denied Pakistani press reports that Pakistani officials seized 15 kilograms (33 pounds) of heroin in a UNHCR vehicle.

Pakistan's English-language newspapers reported yesterday that the drugs had been found hidden in the vehicle en route from the frontier city of Peshawar to Islamabad and that two Pakistanis were arrested.

UNHCR spokesman Raymond Hall established that a check by the agency's local office established that no UNHCR-controlled vehicle was involved.

He said a denial had been issued in Islamabad immediately after publication of the reports yesterday. "We are surprised that the newspapers did not check with us before they published the story," Hall added.

Newspaper reports that the seizure was made on Wednesday after Pakistan's Narcotics Control Board was tipped off that heroin was hidden in a vehicle belonging to the UNHCR.

Most of an estimated three million refugees, from a decade-long civil war in Afghanistan live in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province.

Aquino to visit US

MANILA, Aug. 4. (AP): President Corazon Aquino is tentatively scheduled to visit the United States in November, her foreign secretary said today. The visit would be Mrs Aquino's second to the United States as president. She visited the United States in September 1986, seven months after succeeding ousted President Ferdinand Marcos.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus told reporters the dates and itinerary had not been finalised but he expected the visit in the second week of November. During the visit, Mrs Aquino is expected to discuss the lease on six US military bases, which expires in 1991 under an agreement reached last October.

The United States pledged \$962 million in economic and military aid for the last two years of the pact.

Aquino has refused to say whether she will support an extension. US Ambassador Nicholas Platt said today that the US bases play a vital role in the Philippines and should be maintained despite political and economic changes in Asia.

# US may suspend sale of F-16 jets

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. (KUNA): An influential member of Congress Stephen Solarz, said here yesterday that he will soon offer legislation that would suspend a proposed sale of 60 US F-16 fighter jets to Pakistan if the government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is overthrown in a military coup.

The surprise announcement by the New York Democrat, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on South Asia, immediately was opposed by a senior State Department official.

The Bush administration formally notified Congress July 11 of plans to sell the advanced jets to Pakistan at a cost of \$1.4 billion. Despite some opposition to the proposed sale, lawmakers are expected to approve it eventually in a show of support for Pakistan.

Solarz proposed condition reflected concern here in Washington that Bhutto still faces continuous threats to her rule from the Pakistani military and fundamentalist Muslim groups.

Solarz argued that his proposal would strengthen Bhutto by raising the price to Pakistan of a military overthrow. But in testimony before a House panel on Wednesday, State Department official Theresa Schaffer countered that its effect would be exactly the opposite, sending a message to Islamabad that Washington doubts Bhutto's chances of staying in power.

## Children die of dehydration

# Malnutrition

NEW DELHI, Aug. 4. (UPI): Over one-third of Indian children suffer from malnutrition, about 4,000 die of dehydration daily, while another 500 are severely crippled by polio, according to a medical journal article released.

Hunger is just one of the dangers facing children among the impoverished majority of the population. Child labourers are employed in an array of factories from match-making to diamond cutting. Often they work in dangerous, dehumanising conditions.

The article in the journal of the volunteer Health Association of India carried by the Press Trust of India, blamed the numerous health problems and frequent epidemics on poorly implemented government programmes for supplementary feeding, iodisation of salt and administration of vitamins.

There are approximately 263 million children in India below the age of 14 and, according to the article, the health problems they face are numerous.

More than one-third of the children go to bed hungry, said the article.

In addition, the article said, about 500 are crippled by polio every day because of inadequate immunisation and a staggering 4,000 die every day from dehydration due to illness such as diarrhoea.

Nearly 60,000 children go blind every year due to vitamin A deficiency, the article said. Iodine deficiency accounts for 2.2 million annual cases of mental retardation and 90,000 still births and neonatal deaths, it added.

Nearly three-fourths of the children are suffering from some form of protein energy malnutrition. Nutritional anaemia affects 63 per cent of children below three and 45 per cent of those between three and five, the article said.

The article also said there are approximately 200 million child labourers in South Asia.

In India, children employed in balloon factories in Dhanu, a city in the western state of Maharashtra, are exposed to acidic gases which eat away at their lungs, said the article. Often, the respiratory lining is burnt, which causes broncho-pneumonia.

Those who labour in match factories are constantly breathing toxic fumes, the article said. Many of these children work in intensely hot conditions, risking their lives in accidental fires.

Industries which are lucrative sources for foreign exchange such as gem polishing, diamond cutting, and carpet weaving exploit thousands of children. Many of them suffer from permanently damaged eyesight, posture deformities, and spinal problems, the article said.

## Rajbansi faces trial

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 4. (AP): A prosecutor said yesterday that the only Indian ever to serve in the cabinet, Amichand Rajbansi, would be charged with fraud and other crimes allegedly committed while he was in office.

The Attorney-General for Natal, Mike Imber, said Rajbansi would appear in court shortly, but gave no date.

President P. W. Botha fired Rajbansi from the cabinet last December after a judicial inquiry commission described him as "a mean-minded bully who used ruthless tactics to deal with anyone who stood up to him."

The commission's report said Rajbansi used his political power to grant business favours to his supporters and lied to a parliamentary committee that first investigated the charges.

## S.Korean wins Magsaysay prize for community leadership

MANILA, Philippines, Aug. 4. (AP): Kim In-Soon, a 64-year-old widow who founded a centre for orphans and handicapped children on South Korea's Jeju Island, has been named winner of the Ramon Magsaysay award for community leadership for 1989, the award foundation announced yesterday.

"Victims of war and social upheaval must fend for themselves, yet many cannot, especially children," said the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation. "Amid a gen-

eral struggle for survival, rare is the one who will reach out to help them."

Kim was cited by the awards board for putting up the Ai Kwang Won Children's Home for orphans on Jeju Island in 1952 — during the 1950-53 Korean War — and the Dandelion House for retarded children in 1986, among others.

The announcement said Kim, a public school teacher, established the orphanage after a desperate welfare official left seven babies under her care.

Without consistent government backing, but with the help of friends and several church congregations, the orphanage grew under Kim's supervision, the announcement said.

Kim is the second person named by the foundation this year. On Monday, it named Lakshmi Jain, a development economist and champion of India's poor, as winner for public service.

Other winners will be named in the fields of government leadership, journalism,

literature, creative communication arts and international understanding.

The award includes a \$30,000 prize, a gold medal and a commemorative scroll. Awardees also qualify for grants under the programme for Asian projects, a \$2 million endowment of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

Winners will receive their awards on Aug 31, the 82nd birthday of Ramon Magsaysay, a popular Philippine president who died in a plane crash in 1952.



INTERNATIONAL

# 'Little cabbage' to run in election

TAIPEI, Taiwan, Aug. 4. (AP) — As this island of 20 million people edges toward democracy, a 30-year-old model has catapulted to fame with a political campaign that makes much use of her freely displayed body.

Hsu Hsiao-Dan is running, sometimes naked, in the first election for the Taiwan legislature since martial law was lifted two years ago.

Like the raucous, chair-throwing sessions and fights that have broken out recently in the legislative Yuan, Hsu's campaign for the December balloting indicates how much the island has changed since martial law.

During the 38 years that Taiwan lived under military rule, Hsu might have been locked up for stripping in public and demanding free love and greater political freedom.

But in the present political climate, she has spent only one day behind bars since she first stripped last year to make a political point — though she has been fined, arrested several times and was once given a sentence of 40 days in jail.

Taiwan's version of Cicciolina — the pornographic movie star elected to Italy's parliament — has become the most talked-about woman on this island. Every major newspaper has carried her half-naked pictures. Leading magazines have published in-depth interviews on her sex life.

Although the "little cabbage" as she is called is not expected to win, her campaign has added spice to Taiwan's changing political scene.

Many body is a political weapon. Hsu said with a laugh as she snuggled with one of her three cats in her rooftop apartment in downtown Taipei.

A slight, lithe woman with thick eyebrows and an easy smile, Hsu is recognised everywhere she goes. When she walks by, men tend to grin broadly, women hiss.

Hsu has catalogued her fame in three thick notebooks filled with newspaper stories of her exploits. She has crammed several other photo albums with her nude pictures. She shows these with pride, but she is careful about her campaign, public opinion is mixed.

"By stripping off her clothes, she is stripping the mask of hypocrisy from Taiwan," said one government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Hsu is running for one of the 12 seats of the legislative Yuan in the Kaohsiung district, Taiwan's second-largest city. She will be on the ballot as an independent, not affiliated with the ruling Nationalist Party or the main opposition group, the Democratic Progressive Party.

The Yuan is dominated by members in their 70s or older who were last elected in 1948 on the Chinese mainland. They were frozen in office because the nationalist government, which fled to Taiwan following the communist revolution, still claims to be the legitimate ruler of all China.

The government has instituted a series of political reforms, steps that are needed for the Yuan to shed its rubber-stamp image.

Hsu, the daughter of a tailor and a housewife, comes from the Taiwanese countryside. She attended prestigious Donghai University, studying history, but says she spent most of her time cavorting with local artists.

In April 1988, she staged "Dream Woman," a three-day dance performance in Taichung, Taiwan's third-biggest city. In the last act of the last night, Hsu stripped and walked through the applauding audience. City prosecutors took her to court for "offending public morals."

She became an instant celebrity, calling for a social revolution in Taiwan.

After declaring her candidacy Jan. 4, Hsu held another nude performance, "Dirty Woman's Prayer," and again was prosecuted for immorality.

In later campaigning Hsu, she plans to run naked through a garbage dump and jump nude into a polluted river to bring attention to Taiwan's grave pollution problems.

"I don't just take off my clothes, she said, "I always have a purpose."

**Fire**  
Fire ripped through a department store complex that was packed with shoppers and moviegoers last night, injuring at least 27 people. Several others were feared dead, police and firemen reported.

**Earthquake**  
A strong earthquake lasting about eight minutes was recorded last night off Taiwan's eastern coast, but police said there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

# Seoul denies secret talks with the North

Trade cut off, official says

SEOUL, South Korea, Aug. 4. (Agencies) — The government denied reports today that a cabinet minister has visited communist North Korea twice for secret talks on unification and easing tension on the divided peninsula.

The nation-wide MBC television network reported yesterday that Park Chul-Un, first state minister for political affairs, went to the North twice in June for secret talks with North Korean leaders.

Today the Kyunghyang Shinmun, a national newspaper, said in a front-page story that South and North Korea have had secret contacts on a regular basis since January.

Kyunghyang said Park's secret dialogue was prompted by President Roh Tae-Woo's July 7, 1988, declaration, which called North Korea a member of the same national community and proposed mutual trade and exchanges in pursuit of common prosperity.

MBC said Park exchanged views with the North on a new unification formula under study by the Seoul government and worked on plans for a summit between Roh and North Korean leader Kim Il Sung.

South Korea outlaws unauthorized trips to the North and maintains dialogue on unification must be carried on through official channels. A trip by a government official would be considered an approved visit.

Park, a key aide to Roh and a relative of Roh's wife, has been instrumental in formulating the government's policy to expand relations with communist countries. He was appointed to the cabinet in a shakeup July 19.

Unification Minister Lee Hong-Ku today called the report "groundless." Park has never been to North Korea, he said.

Park also told a news conference today the report "is not true."

However, the South Korean news agency Yonhap said Park did not categorically deny he had ever been in North Korea.

"We have to deal with national problems on unification prudently," Yonhap quoted Park as saying. "Unification must be handled with prudence and wisdom."

South Koreans recently have witnessed a bewildering series of secret, illegal trips to the North by such activists as a radical student, a lawmaker and a clergyman.

The Korean peninsula was divided into the communist North and the capitalist South after World War II. The North invaded the South, starting the 1950-53 Korean War. Despite attempts at dialogue, the two sides remain bitter enemies.

Trade between South and North Korea has completely stopped since early this year, when relations between the two Koreas worsened.

Last October, the capitalist South officially began encouraging trade with the communist North under a policy calling for mutual reconciliation and co-operation.

Kim did not elaborate, but other ministry officials said South Korean traders have stopped applying for licences to import North Korean goods since a dissident leader travelled illegally to the North in the spring for talks with the North Korean President.

The Seoul government has accused North Korea of attempting to subvert its authority by inviting the dissident to the North while ignoring South Korean calls for official contacts.

Meanwhile, the South Korean Justice Ministry yesterday banned 28 Roman Catholic priests from leaving the country while police investigate a dissident priest's illegal visit to communist North Korea.

The ministry acted after three dissident Catholic priests were arrested last week for secretly sending the Rev. Moon Gyu-Hyon to Pyongyang to escort home a South Korean dissident student who is illegally visiting the North.

South Korea hanged seven convicted killers today and the Justice Ministry warned that other violent criminals would face the same fate.

It said they would play a key role in China's modernisation and declared the party's policy towards them would not change.

Western diplomats said that arrests and intimidation of scholars since a bloody military crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in June had sorely undermined support for the party among intellectuals.

China has asked South Korea for the unconditional, immediate return of a Chinese Army major and his wife who defected to South Korea last weekend, the Yonhap news agency reported yesterday.

Yonhap, quoting an unidentified official at the South Korea Foreign Ministry, added that Seoul "will not comply with the Chinese government's request" because of its policy of respecting defectors' wishes in accordance with international laws and customary practices.

Foreign Ministry officials declined to comment.

Yonhap said Maj. Zuo Xujai and his wife were seeking political asylum in the United States. They defected to South Korea last Saturday through the border village of Panmunjom.

Zuo, who is fluent in English and has served in Chinese embassies in New Delhi and London, reportedly sought asylum because of his frustration over China's harsh crackdown on the recent pro-democracy protests.

Chen Yizi fled China to France several weeks ago through underground channels, the activist said. Chen, who is about 50, was director of the institute of restructuring the economy, an influential think-tank when Zhao was in power.

Chen said the front should henceforth be known as the Federation for Democracy in China. Its Paris office will coordinate activities throughout Europe.

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The Sultan of Brunei Hassanal Bolkiah gestures towards the guests overlooking to his two wives Raja Istari Pengiran Anak Saleha (centre) and Pengiran Istari Hajjah Mariam on Wednesday during the "Berkhatan" or manhood rites of their eldest son Prince Al Muhtadee Billah (Reuters wirephoto)

# Prince attains adulthood

Southeast Asian leaders attend Brunei ceremonies

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Aug. 4. (Reuters) — Six southeast Asian leaders stepped back in time yesterday when they attended ornate ceremonies marking the coming of age of a snooker-loving teenager, Prince Al Muhtadee Billah, who has one of the world's richest men for a father.

The leaders of Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand joined Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei as Muslim priests chanted blessings for 15-year-old Prince Al Muhtadee Billah in ceremony commemorating his circumcision several years ago.

In a ritual dating back 400 years, gongs and cymbals sounded as dozens of attendants carried lances, swords, shields, candles and personal regalia of the prince who sat impassively on a throne in his father's sprawling palace.

Wearing a jewel-encrusted gold crown and a golden and brown tunic with gold epaulettes

and a kris tucked at his waist, the prince then led a motorcade through the streets of Bandar Seri Begawan, capital of the oil-rich sultanate.

Tens of thousands of children waved flags and cheered as the prince passed by in an elaborate golden carriage.

Thousands more watched the ceremony, which was televised live on Wednesday night and on Thursday, an auspicious Muslim religious day and national holiday.

The prince is Hassanal Bolkiah's eldest son. The 43-year-old Sultan, who became absolute ruler of Brunei on the northwest coast of Borneo island in 1967, has 10 children by two wives.

The Sultan, whose personal fortune is estimated at \$25 billion, has not named a crown prince as his successor but government officials said Prince Al Muhtadee is widely expected to ascend the throne eventually.

The "berkhatan" ceremony, lasting a total nine days, is normally carried out on such a

scale only for the crown prince, officials said. The Sultan himself underwent a similar ceremony at the age of 12 in 1958.

The 226,000 people of Brunei, which became completely independent from Britain only in 1984, have a per capita income of \$17,000, among the world's highest. They pay no income tax and enjoy free education, health care and old-age pension.

In a ceremony on Wednesday night, the Sultan, Indonesian President Suharto, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, Philippine President Corazon Aquino, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan sprinkled scented water on the prince to bless him.

The six nations form the Association of South East Asian Nations. This is the first time the six leaders have met since an ASEAN summit meeting in Manila in December, 1987.

# Akihito wants to promote peace

## Modern monarchy

TOKYO, Aug. 4. (AP) — Japan's new emperor, in his first news conference since the death of Emperor Hirohito, said today he will fulfill his constitutional duty by promoting world peace and the happiness of his country's people.

Emperor Akihito, 55, and Empress Michiko, 54, appeared at the carefully orchestrated 37-minute meeting with Japanese and foreign reporters today at the Imperial Palace, fielding questions that had been prepared long in advance.

Seated side by side at a table draped with gold brocade cloth, the royal couple spoke slowly, and distinctly. The empress talked so softly her voice was like a whisper.

"I want to fulfill my duties as emperor that are laid out in the constitution to work for the happiness of the people and to have a monarchy that is fitting for the present age," Akihito said.

He ascended the chrysanthemum throne on Jan. 7 upon the death of his enigmatic father, whose 62-year reign — the longest in Japanese history — covered the country's disastrous war in Asia and its subsequent recovery to become an economic superpower.

Akihito, a graying, quiet man, has long lived in the shadow of his father. Four of the 12 prepared questions asked today were about Hirohito, who is now known to the Japanese by his posthumous name, Emperor Showa.

"The Showa Emperor was a person who thought peace was very important... and I believe he must have had many hardships," Akihito said, responding to a question about imperial responsibility for the war.

Akihito said he wanted to learn from the past and from his father's experience.

He said he would be willing to visit China and Korea — two victims of Japan's war actions — when the government decides it is appropriate. He also said he would be willing to visit Okinawa, the southernmost

Japanese island, where people remain bitter about the casualties and destruction they bore in the US military assault during World War II. Hirohito never visited Okinawa after the war.

"In today's world all nations must be part of the international community," Akihito said. "The most important thing is to try to understand the feelings of others, and I hope to try hard to do so."

As in Hirohito's rare news conferences, some of the questions dealt with the imperial role in Japan's post-war constitution, which limits the emperor to performing ceremonial tasks and forbids him from exercising any political power. The previous constitution gave Hirohito nominal powers, and the wartime government asserted it was acting in his name.

"The constitution is the highest law, and I hope to strive to protect that law together with the Japanese people," Akihito said.

The postwar constitution omitted all references to the emperor's special relationship with the gods of Shinto, Japan's indigenous religion, which ranks some traditionalists.

Akihito stressed the importance of freedom of speech. A Japanese reporter, in one of several follow-up questions that were permitted, asked if that freedom extended to those who oppose the monarchy.

"Yes, they are included," Akihito replied.

To a question about opening the imperial palace, a huge, moated area in the center of Tokyo, Akihito said he would welcome making the palace grounds more accessible to the public, which now is excluded from most areas.

Akihito has delivered several speeches since ascending the throne, but today as the first time he engaged in a question-and-answer session with reporters.

Journalists representing 43 Japanese and 12 foreign news organizations attended today's news conference, the first since 1975 to be open to foreign correspondents.

# China denies report of Deng illness

Senior leader 'suffering from prostate cancer'

BEIJING, Aug. 4. (AP) — China's Foreign Ministry refused to comment immediately on a Japanese news report today that senior leader Deng Xiaoping is seriously ill with prostate cancer.

However, the official Xinhua news agency's Hong Kong office described the report of Deng's illness, carried by the Japanese news agency Jiji Press, as mere rumour. The report sent Hong Kong's stock market plunging 55.51 points.

An employee at the Foreign Ministry's information department said he had received many

queries about Deng's health but could issue no immediate response.

There was no answer tonight at the Communist Party's news office.

Xinhua editors in Beijing, contacted by telephone, said they had not received any news that Deng was ill.

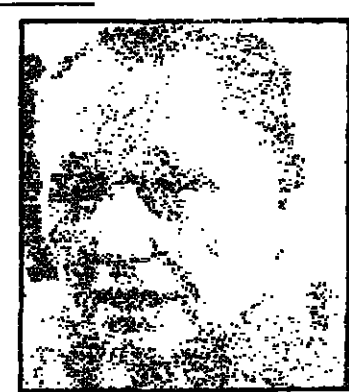
Jiji quoted unidentified Chinese sources as saying the 84-year-old Deng's health had deteriorated seriously a few days ago, and that emergency medical personnel were sent to care for him at a coastal resort east of

Beijing.

The Japanese news agency cited doctors' discussion on whether Deng was too ill to be moved to Beijing, where better medical facilities are available.

Deng was last seen in public on June 9, when national television showed him meeting with top Army officers and congratulating them on having ended student pro-democracy protests in Beijing.

The Army opened fire on June 3-4 on the protesters and local residents, killing hundreds and possibly thousands.



Deng

# Death toll rises to 97 in Irian Jaya quake

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Aug. 4. (AP) — The death toll has risen to at least 97 from a powerful earthquake that crumbled homes and triggered landslides in mountain villages in the remote Indonesian province of Irian Jaya, a local official said yesterday.

"As of last evening, reports from the stricken areas counted 97 deaths," said an officer of the local social welfare office, contacted by telephone in the provincial capital of Jayapura.

The officer, who spoke on condition of

anonymity, said bad communications prevented his office from learning much about search and rescue efforts in the quake area, about 350 kilometres (219 miles) south of Jayapura.

The quake, measuring 6 on the Richter Scale, struck at 9:17 am (0017 GMT) Tuesday.

Bob Breuker of the mission aviation fellowship told the Associated Press that more than 90 people had been killed in the Soba village alone.

Soba was believed hardest hit among three villages along the side of Mount Kurima in the district of Kurima, about 3,500 kilometres (2,188 miles) east of Jakarta.

"All residents in Soba village have been evacuated to safer areas," he said, quoting reports from pilots of MAF helicopters helping in rescue efforts.

He said he did not know the number of evacuees, or the number killed in Holoun and Pasema villages. The three villages have a combined population of about 3,500.

# More to join race for PM

TOKYO, Aug. 4. (AP) — Two new candidates indicated today plan to join the race for prime minister as the governing party faced demands it refrain from back-room deals in choosing Japan's leader.

Prime Minister Soudaue Uno, who announced on July 24 he would resign after only two months in office, called on his party to refrain from factionalism in the party's presidential race.

The half-dozen major factions within the Conservative Party, which has governed Japan for 34 years, differ more in their personal and financial allegiances than in political leanings.

An election for party president is scheduled for Tuesday, and a vote in Parliament to select a new prime minister is expected on Thursday.

A Liberal Democratic Party official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said former defence agency head Ganri Yamashita, 68, and Yoshio Hayashi, 62, a former welfare minister, have indicated they would like to run against the apparent front-runner, Toshiki Kaifu.

Both potential candidates were attempting to collect the 20 signatures of party lawmakers necessary to declare their candidacies, the official said. Major newspapers also reported the two planned to pursue their candidacies.

However, since Yamashita and Hayashi are members of the same party faction, it would be highly unusual for both to actually run.

Other possible candidates were former Transportation Minister Shintaro Ishimura and Ryutaro Hashimoto, the No. 2 man in the party leadership.

Until today it appeared that Kaifu, a 10-term Member of Parliament's powerful lower house and a former education minister, might be the only candidate for the nation's top post.

But a group of governing party lawmakers yesterday criticised the party's process for selecting the new prime minister, charging that Kaifu, 58, had been chosen in back-room deals.

Factions in the Liberal Democratic Party had been expected to declare their official support yesterday for Kaifu, and the party's largest group, the Takeshita faction, indicated it would support him.

The Miyazawa group favours either Hayashi or Hashimoto for the post, major newspapers reported today.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Brain drain

LONDON, Aug 4. (KUNA): A steady flow of Britain's top academics crossing the Atlantic is bound to increase, it was reported here Friday.

A survey in America, highlighted by the Times newspaper here, showed that among a representative sample of 366 British institutions, 40 per cent of universities said they were unable to find enough professors to teach computer science, one-in-three had vacancies in business departments, and one-in-four were looking for mathematics and medical lecturers.

## Diplomat sacked

LONDON, Aug 4. (KUNA): A senior British diplomat has been sacked for accusing Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of "double standards" in her approach to terrorism.

Patrick Hazeldine, 46, second secretary, who made the accusation in a letter to the Guardian newspaper.

## Violence upsurge

LONDON, Aug 4. (KUNA): One in seven British police officers were assaulted last year in a wave of increased violence, largely attributed to alcohol and hooliganism, it was reported here.

A survey compiled by the Police Review Magazine showed that almost 20,000 assaults were committed in England, Wales and Scotland, representing an increase of 15 per cent compared to 1987.

The survey found that rural forces were highest in the England and Wales assaults, the Times newspaper, which gave prominence to the figures, said.

## North pension

WASHINGTON, Aug 4. (AP): The House of Representatives Armed Services Committee's top Republican introduced legislation Wednesday to restore the \$23,000 a year pension former White House aide Oliver North lost because of his felony convictions in the Iran-Contra affair.

Rep Bill Dickinson, an Alabama Republican, said North, a 20-year Marine veteran, has "demonstrated his willingness to give his life for his country" and should not be asked "to give up the security of his own family on charges that may not have been his doing."

## Falls off

BRUSSELS, Aug 4. (Reuters): Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens fell off his bicycle during an outing to the Belgian Coast on Wednesday, breaking a finger and suffering scratches and bruises, a government spokeswoman said yesterday.

Martens, 53, had a heart operation in 1983 and now cycles almost every day.

## Couple escape

BREITENBURG, West Germany, Aug 4. (AP): Two East Germans used a fire truck to run through border fortifications and flee their communist homeland, police said Wednesday.

West German border police in Bavaria state said the 26-year-old fireman and a 22-year-old nurse managed to climb over a border fence unharmed late Tuesday after ramming other barriers with the truck.

Police said the couple was able to drive right up to the border by showing guards fire equipment passes.

## Direct talks

LONDON, Aug 4. (Reuters): Britain and Argentina could hold direct talks this month following Argentina's decision to lift a ban on British imports imposed after the 1982 Falkland War, the Financial Times said yesterday.

The two countries were moving closer together than at any time since Britain defeated invading Argentine forces on the South Atlantic islands, the newspaper said.

It said there was speculation the talks could be held in the United States with Washington acting as mediator, although an agenda had yet to be worked out.

## Beatles tapes

LONDON, Aug 4. (Reuters): Tape recordings of the Beatles singing their favourite hymns will come under the hammer at a sale by British auction house Sotheby's later this month.

But strict copyright laws mean the tapes, which are being sold by former Beatles chauffeur Alf Bicknell, will not be on general release.

Bicknell, 60, thought the tapes, given to him 20 years ago by John Lennon, had been sent to the Beatles by fans and their secret was discovered only recently when they were played.

## Animal abuse

HONG KONG, Aug 4. (Reuters): Animal welfare officials called to the flat of a Hong Kong labourer found a large crocodile with a badly bent snout living in a small garbage can under his bed.

The 1.5 metre (four foot, nine inch) Siamese freshwater crocodile was jammed into a one-metre (three-foot) garbage can with a mesh hole through which it had been fed fish.

The reptile, its snout sloping upwards at an angle of more than 45 degrees, is being kept in a dog pound and will be transferred to a zoo or breeding centre.

## Sanctions lifted

BRUSSELS, Aug 4. (Reuters): President Mobutu Sese Seko said all Zaire's sanctions against Belgium would be lifted as a result of an accord last month settling the nine-month row between the two countries.

"All the measures taken during the crisis are cancelled. The situation is what it was before the crisis, as if the crisis had never happened," Mobutu said in an interview with the daily La Libre Belgique published today.



Joyous welcome

SEVASTOPOL, USSR, Aug 4. (AP): Throwing flowers, candy and coins, more than 1,000 residents of this Black Sea port gave a riotous welcome today to American Navy warships cruising into the historic harbour.

"That's for ice cream when you come ashore," called one woman in the crowd as she lobbed a 20-kopek coin toward the American sailors lined along the ships' decks in their bright summer whites.

The American seamen, who sent dozens of round sailor hats whizzing to the whistling, waving crowd, said they

were equally excited by the encounter.

The US visit to Sevastopol is the first since World War II. Three US warships docked in Leningrad in 1975.

The goodwill port call by the Cruiser USS Thomas S. Gates and the frigate USS Kaulfman echoed a visit last month by three Soviet ships to Norfolk, Virginia, in the first such Soviet-American naval exchange in 14 years.

Picture shows residents from Sevastopol gather on a vantage point to watch the American cruiser.

## US defence funds slashed

## \$286.5b bill approved

WASHINGTON, Aug 4. (AP): The US House of Representatives, deliberating less than an hour, today approved a \$286.5 billion military spending bill that eliminates funds for President George Bush's advanced tactical fighter and advanced

cruise missile but restores the F-14D warplane Bush wants to kill.

By a vote of 312-105, the House voted to adopt a spending plan that slashes nearly \$2 billion for the

space-based missile defense system dubbed "Star Wars," formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative, from the President's request. It also strictly limits the B-2 Stealth bomber programme and makes drastic cuts in the MX and Midgetman nuclear missiles.

Despite the unusually rapid approval of the costly bill by the Democratic-controlled House, the ranking Republican on the House Armed Services Committee, Rep. William Dickinson of Alabama, said Bush may veto the measure.

"They have conformed," Dickinson said of the appropriations measure that conforms to the separate defence authorisation bill the House adopted last week. "But that still makes it veto-bait in my opinion."

The bill, approved as Congress rushed to complete pending business before starting a month-long recess later today, slashed \$2 billion from classified programmes that include the advanced fighter and advanced cruise missile.

The money bill also incorporates the cuts the House made in the "Star Wars" programme, the B-2 Stealth bomber and the MX and Midgetman nuclear missiles in the policy-setting authorisation bill.

The House cut Bush's request of \$4.9 billion for "Star Wars" by \$1.8 billion, imposed strict limitation on production of the radar-evading B-2, trimmed \$502 million from the \$1.1 billion sought for the MX Rail-Garrison System and eliminated all \$100 million sought for the Midgetman.

The bill adds \$893 million to the administration's budget for the purchase of 24 new F-14 jet fighters and 12 EA-6B prowlers.

## Pretoria in secret talks with Mandela

## De Klerk sets limits of reforms

JOHANNESBURG, Aug 4. (UPI): Senior government officials have conducted a three-year secret dialogue with jailed-for-life black leader Nelson Mandela in an attempt to induce him to moderate his stance, a weekly newspaper reported.

Quoting "well-informed diplomatic sources," the weekly Mail said in a copywritten story a team of four top government representatives led by Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee had held more than a dozen lengthy discussions with Mandela, 71, since 1986.

The team had tried in vain to convince Mandela, a leader of the outlawed African National Congress, to drop the commitment to armed struggle, a one-person-one-vote unitary constitution, sanctions, international isolation of Pretoria and mass actions, the Mail reported.

The Mail also reported the negotiations involved the conditions for the release of Mandela's jailed colleagues, including 75-year-old Walter Sisulu, who was sentenced along with Mandela in 1964 to life imprisonment on sabotage charges and remains behind bars.

Since its banning in 1960, the ANC has waged a limited guerrilla war against minority white rule.

Member of Parliament for the right-wing Conservative Party

Koos Van Der Merwe told a pre-election public meeting last night the party would send Mandela back to prison from the house inside a prison compound where he now lives in relative comfort.

"He can die there and we will bury him there and forget about him," Van Der Merwe said.

Mandela, who has not renounced the ANC's armed struggle, says his position that the government must negotiate with the ANC remains unchanged.

South Africa's likely next president F.W. De Klerk yesterday outlined the limits of the apartheid reform that has become a rallying call of his campaign in elections ending on Sept 6.

"Things must change drastically and fast," De Klerk told an unruly crowd of about 1,200 at a National Party (NP) election meeting in Cape Town. "But whites must not go from doing the dominating to being the dominated."

"One man, one vote ... will inevitably lead to (black) majority rule and domination. That is unjust towards the white electorate and totally unacceptable," he said.

Elated anti-apartheid leaders pledged to expand their nationwide defiance campaign after claiming victory in the first phase, an unprecedented challenge of segregated health services.



Guerrillas attack

Guerrillas attacked at least four provincial towns Wednesday after a night of gun battles with government troops in San Salvador.

Six people were reported killed and more than 10 wounded.

Radio Venceremos, the guerrilla radio station, said the attacks were part of a rebel campaign against "the fascist government, of President Alfredo Cristiani" and in repudiation of increases in transportation costs and repression in general.

Earlier this week Cristiani's conservative administration

lifted price controls on about 200 consumer items and services, including transportation and electricity, in an effort to revive El Salvador's economy.

As a result, beginning Wednesday bus fares in the capital and on rural routes shot up, in some cases almost double what they were. New electricity rates will be announced next week.

Picture shows a Salvadoran leftist guerrilla armed with an AK-47 stands watch during a clash with Army troops. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Panama leaders condemn student's death

PANAMA CITY, Aug 4. (UPI): Both government and opposition leaders condemned the shooting death of a student protester that marred the latest round of talks on Panama's 3-month-old political crisis.

The talks yesterday, sponsored by the Organisation of American States, were the first since a July 16-17 session that brought together the principle leaders of the various factions for the first time.

"The fact that this death occurred on the day the negotiations resumed is a very strong

warning that we need to arrive at a national agreement to avoid any more unnecessary deaths," said former opposition presidential candidate Guillermo Endara.

Panama has been in a political stalemate since the government annulled violence-scarred May 7 presidential elections amid allegations of widespread fraud. Panama's Catholic church and foreign political observers said the opposition won the election by as much as a 3-1 ratio.

Military, government and opposition

officials negotiated for six hours yesterday, seeking to resolve the situation since Panama's constitution calls for a transfer of power in September. Negotiators said no progress was made, but delegations agreed to meet again today.

Police said University of Panama students Luis Gonzalez, 24, was shot by an unknown assailant while he and several hundred others participated in a campus march protesting the rule of de facto leader Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Third World missiles worry US  
Syria, Israel within range of one another's

WASHINGTON, Aug 4. (AP): US officials worry that Third World countries are developing their own ballistic missiles and co-operating among themselves without concern for international politics.

In the Middle East, Syria and Israel are already within range of one another's missiles.

Iraq was cited as a country that upgraded Soviet Scud missiles for use against Tehran in the war with Iran.

Argentina, Iraq and possibly North Korea are said to have helped Egypt develop its Vector, Sakr 80 and Scud-B missiles. The Scud was a Soviet design.

The Vector, still being developed, will be able to carry a 1,000 pound (450 kilo) weapon

960 kilometres (600 miles), the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency said.

In a review, "World military expenditures and arms transfers" for 1988, the agency pointed out that some Third World countries no longer depend on the United States, the Soviet Union or Western Europe for their weapons. The volume was made available on Tuesday.

"Of potential greater worry is the fact that these countries will themselves become purveyors of ballistic missiles and related technology worldwide," the review said.

South Korea and Taiwan are known to have modified missiles from the United States, the review said. South Korea converted some of the Nike-Hercules missiles, designed

for use against planes, to weapons that can be used against targets on the ground, it added.

It said that the US Lance missile served as a prototype for two Taiwan missiles which have since been terminated.

The number of countries with missiles already deployed was given as 11—six in the Middle East and Far East: Egypt, Iran, Israel, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Syria, North and South Yemen, North and South Korea. South Korea was said to have tested one, the Patriot, and be developing the Agni, which could carry as much as 910 kilograms (2,000 pounds) for 1,550 miles (2,480 kilometres). Pakistan is developing two shorter-range missiles, called Hafit I and Hafit II.

## Rebel rockets strike Kabul

KABUL, Aug 4. (Reuters): Afghan rebels today broke a three-day lull in rocket attacks on Kabul when at least nine missiles exploded in the city, killing one person and injuring eight.

A government spokesman said most of the rockets struck the Duralaman district in the southwest of the city, which houses the Defence Ministry and Soviet embassy, and a nearby civilian area.

It is from Duralaman that Afghan forces fire surface-to-surface missiles at Western-backed rebels fighting government troops in the eastern border areas with Pakistan.

The government plans to counter the threat posed by mujahideen rocket attacks by pushing its defence posts around the city further out, the official Bakhtar news agency reported.

Quoting an authorised security source, it said: "To prevent extremist rocket attacks, it is planned to expand the security belt."

Bakhtar gave no details of the plan, but said the Afghan Air Force had flown 380 combat missions since Tuesday against areas used by mujahideen to fire their rockets.

On several recent nights, the government has also pounded the mountains around Kabul with heavy rocket and artillery fire.

According to the news agency, the armed forces concentrated their operations on the Paghman valley 20 km (12 miles) west of Kabul and areas a similar distance east and southeast of the city.

Kabul used to have three rings of security posts to guard against rebel attacks, but they were gradually reduced to one as Soviet troops completed their withdrawal from Afghanistan in February.

Now it appears that the government intends pushing the security belt out far enough to deny the guerrillas the ability to rocket central Kabul as they have done repeatedly in the last month.

To be effective, they will have to push the mujahideen at least 30 km (19 miles) away from Kabul—the accurate range of the Egyptian-made rockets the rebels are using.

The depth of the present security belt varies but is nowhere more than 15-20 km (9-12 miles) from the city.

In the first four months after the Soviet pullout there was relatively little rocketing of Kabul, but Bakhtar reported this week that 200 rockets fell on the city in the five weeks to the end of July.

It put the casualties at 200 dead and 440 injured, but United Nations figures say 281 were killed and close to 750 seriously wounded.

At United Nations headquarters in New York, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar urged Afghans to put their country's interests first and to work to establish a broad-based government.

"I feel duty-bound ... to express my grave concern over the latest escalation in fighting, the danger of its spreading and the increased suffering of the Afghan people," he said.

A UN source said his statement was prompted by the recent mujahideen rocket attacks on Kabul and by continued fighting elsewhere between the guerrillas and the Soviet-backed government.

## Arafat's policies get Fatah backing

## Hardliners less vocal

TUNIS, Aug 4. (Reuters): A mass meeting of the PLO group Fatah overwhelmingly backed Yasser Arafat's policy of peace through diplomacy and unarmed revolt in Israeli-occupied territories, delegates said today.

Hardliners with reservations about the strategy Arafat adopted last year had turned out to be less numerous and less vocal than some Fatah leaders had expected, they said.

"There has been some debate but this is very much Yasser Arafat's conference," the congress chairman, Arafat adviser Nabil Shaath, told Reuters.

The five-day congress opened under tight security yesterday and has since held three sessions behind closed doors.

By yesterday evening the organisers had checked in 980 delegates from across the world and another 179 were expected to arrive before the close, the organisers said.

Fatah, the dominant group in the Palestine Liberation Organisation, held its last congress in Damascus in 1980 and much of the work has been reviewing the past nine years.

Arafat's deputy in Fatah, Salah Khalaf, had predicted that Arafat would come under pressure to authorise military attacks outside the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In an opening speech yesterday, Arafat said there was no going back on the course: the PLO had taken since the intifada made a Palestinian state a realistic target.

Shaath said the general debate would end this evening and work would then continue in committees.

The congress will elect a new five new leaders, including a new Sunday, to fill vacancies in the central committee.

Arafat said yesterday the PLO disliked the original Israeli plan for elections in the occupied territories, but would have accepted it if it had aimed at giving the Palestinian people their right to self-determination.

The original Israeli election plan aimed at "perpetuating the Israeli occupation of the occupied territories" and has now collapsed in failure, Arafat declared.

"But the PLO would have accepted this plan if it had constituted a stage in the realisation of the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and freedom," he said.

"I take this opportunity," Arafat said, "to ask the American government how long it intends to continue ignoring the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and how many wars we will still have to fight to emerge from the vicious circle of blood and suffering."

"The intifada (uprising) will not stop until the conclusion of a peace treaty and the realization of the Palestinian people's inalienable right to return to self-determination and to the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital."

A Palestinian resistance organisation has strongly rejected the recognition of Israel, saying no leader or organisation has the right to do so.

A statement issued in the name of the Popular Army on June 16 threatened Bir Zeit University professor Sari Nusseibeh for allegedly misusing uprising funds and co-operating with Israel.

Prosecution papers filed in an Israeli case against several uprising leaders alleged that Nusseibeh, a PLO supporter, was paymaster of the uprising, but he was never charged.

Jamil Tarifi, a lawyer from Ramallah, was threatened by wall slogans signed by the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The leaflet did not refer to the PFLP, which participates in the unified leadership.

Tarifi recently announced that he took part in talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The prime minister has held a series of sessions with Palestinians on his peace initiative, but Tarifi is the only Arab to publicly admit taking part.

The initiative calls for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to select Palestinians to open talks with Israel on limited autonomy.

Shamir today again ruled out any dealings with the PLO, which many Palestinians in the territories consider their legitimate representative.

The underground leadership of the Palestinian uprising today denounced groups that have threatened Arab nationalists, claiming the infighting was inspired by Israel.

"Nationalists have been accused of collaboration and their cars have been burned in the

هكذا من الراحل



# Bush hopeful on Iran offer, but ship to stay



A Shiite Muslim boy raises the picture of Obeid during a demonstration in Beirut's southern suburbs. (Reuters wirephoto)



Eham Ghandour, wife of Cicippio smiles in a press conference in east Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)



Bush comments on the hostage situation in Lebanon during a meeting with reporters at the White House Oval office yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

(Continued from Page 1)

breaking the deadlock in the hostage crisis.

Israel is offering to trade Obeid and more than 150 Shiite Muslim prisoners for 17 Western hostages, including eight or nine Americans, and three Israeli soldiers.

The United States, while saying it will not negotiate with kidnappers, has called on Iran to use its influence to help free the hostages. Rafsanjani, inaugurated as President this week, is considered a moderate compared to the late Ayatollah Khomeini.

"We have been in contact with the Iranians through various channels on the hostage situation," said State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler.

She said officials believed "Iran is genuinely engaged" in working to resolve the crisis.

"Any improvement in relations between us will be contingent on Iranian willingness to act responsibly in the world arena to include an effort to resolve the hostage issue once and for all by producing the release of all our hostages. And by also making it clear that they have turned away from support of terrorism," she said.

Bush replied "I don't know for sure" when asked what had motivated Cicippio's captors to indefinitely postpone their announced plan to kill him.

The United States had deployed warships in the eastern Mediterranean and Arabian Sea and drew up plans for military strikes in the event Cicippio, 59, was killed. The ships have yet to be called back.

"I like to think that a broad appeal to nations in every corner of the globe had something to do with it," he said. "I was certainly pleased that that brutal murder that has been threatened was set aside."

In related developments today, in South Beirut, pro-Iranian zealots of Hezbollah, paraded to denounce the United States.

The International Committee of the Red Cross expressed willingness to relay to Israel the demands for a prisoner release made a day earlier by kidnappers threatening the life of American hostage Joseph James Cicippio.

Cicippio's Lebanese wife, Eham Ghandour, told a news conference in Christian East Beirut she wanted to "send gratitude to all those who stood behind this blessed initiative."

A knowledgeable Shiite Muslim source in Beirut, said the final word on Cicippio's reprieve came from Rafsanjani.

"Rafsanjani must have used his first day in office to pressure the kidnappers to spare Cicippio's life," the source said.

United Nations envoy Marrack Goulding sought Algeria's help in establishing the fate of US Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins, whose captors claimed they hanged him on Monday because Israel did not release abducted Obeid.

In South Beirut, Hezbollah's spiritual leader Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah said during a Friday sermon that the hostage holders should not hurt their captives.

"Let's be better than them (the arrogant powers), let's be lofter, let's be more humanitarian," he said. "What we want is for those detained people (hostages) not to be hurt."

The demonstration that followed the sermon was to protest the abduction of Obeid, a Hezbollah-affiliated cleric.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said today he hoped for the end of the current hostage crisis once Shiite radicals in Lebanon make known their specific demands.

Shamir told reporters in Jerusalem that Israel was "waiting for proposals" from the Shiite faction, which promised in a communiqué issued in Beirut that it would provide a list of prisoners whose release it is demanding.

"We hope we will get some proposals and it will be the end of the crisis," Shamir said.

The New York Times reported today that Bush had "all but decided" to attack terrorist strongholds in eastern Lebanon, including the Baalbek base of 2,000 Iranian Revolutionary Guards, if Cicippio had been killed.

A White House spokesman ratched at home last night said on condition of not being identified, "To my knowledge that is not true."

Bush refused to confirm reports he had been prepared to order retaliatory military action if Cicippio had been killed.

"If I had made such a decision, I expect this would be the last place I'd be talking about it," he said.



Refugees walk out

Hundreds of Lebanese flee south to Israel's self-declared security zone. Refugees said they feared a US strike against pro-Iranian positions in Lebanon and wanted to escape shelling in Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Iranians offered jobs and goods

NICOSIA, Aug. 4. (Reuters) Iran's new President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said today he had a crash programme to provide jobs and consumer goods after "10 years of hardship from war and revolution."

"It is not fair to tell the poor, the workers and civil servants, to live in austerity for another decade," he told worshippers at Tehran's mass prayer meeting.

Rafsanjani said the end of fighting against Iraq last August had reduced Iran's military spending by \$2 billion a year, giving the government a freer hand to meet the people's needs.

More than a quarter of Iran's 15-million-strong workforce are out of jobs. People queue for hours to buy rations of subsidised necessities. The few who can afford it pay stiff black market prices.

"The wage-earners and salary-earners, and the unemployed in particular, have a difficult time," Rafsanjani said in a sermon broadcast on Tehran Radio.

"Our plan is for the government to provide facilities so that all factories would be able to work at least one shift, thus pouring some goods needed by the people into the market within the coming year."

Rafsanjani, who took office yesterday, did not say how much the plan would cost the government.

He said many factories now were between 60 and 80 per cent idle because of lack of spare parts or primary inputs. Others had no choice but to sell a part of their output on the black market just to be able to pay their workers' wages.

In the longer run, Rafsanjani said, the situation would improve with investment in basic industries such as petrochemicals, steel and energy.

Rafsanjani used his first speech as President to allay the fears of zealous Khomeini disciples that he would lead the country away from the Ayatollah's revolutionary Islamic vision.

"Despite the poisonous propaganda saying the Iranian nation is setting its hopes on a new era, I am confident that we and our people will accept nothing but the path of Imam (Khomeini), which is the path of Islam and the Holy Quran," he said.

Rafsanjani's theme was picked up by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, incumbent President and Khomeini's successor as spiritual leader, who presided over the ceremony often interrupted by sobbing at the mention of Khomeini's name.

"If by the new era they mean straying from the path of the Imam... (then) America and other enemies, the arrogant of the world and the hypocrites will take this wish to the grave," he said.

The post of prime minister has been abolished and Rafsanjani, 55, has to present his cabinet for approval to Parliament, where he has been Speaker since 1980.

Khamenei's decree confirming Rafsanjani's landslide victory and installing him as President was read by Khomeini's son Ahmad—a sign of the power of the "Imam's moment," as Ahmad has been known since his father's death two months ago.

Khamenei, 59, praised Rafsanjani as a personality always trusted by the revolution and "the strong arm and eloquent tongue of the Islamic republic."

## Battle rages in S. Beirut

### 2 killed, 7 wounded

BEIRUT, Aug. 4. (AP) Shells crashed into the narrow alleys of south Beirut slums today during a five-hour artillery battle between Muslim and Christian gunners that killed two people and wounded seven, police reported.

Civilians in other districts of the war-scarred city interrupted work and rushed to underground bomb shelters as a precaution against the duel spreading.

By police count, the 20-week confrontation between the 20,000 predominantly Christian troops of Gen Michel Aoun and 40,000 Syrian troops has killed 516 people and wounded 2,183 in addition to inflicting millions of dollars in damage.

The clash started as an exchange of sniper fire between the Christian district of Ein Rummaneh and the adjacent Shiite Muslim slum of Chiyah early in the morning and developed into a shelling duel.

The duel with howitzers, mortars and tank cannon was still underway shortly before midday (0900 GMT), which prevented many Muslims from attending Friday prayers in Chiyah mosques.

Each side accused the other of provoking the clash.

A spokesman for Aoun's command, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Syrian snipers manning rooftop firing nests in Chiyah targeted his soldiers' positions in Ein Rummaneh.

A spokesman for the mainstream Shiite Muslim Amal militia, Syria's closest ally and dominant in Chiyah, said Syrian soldiers "had to open fire at Aoun's army to protect Chiyah's citizens."

"Aoun's soldiers were shooting at everything that moved in Chiyah early in the morning. The Syrians fired back to silence the sources of fire," said the Amal spokesman who identified himself only by the code-named of Abu Ali.

He said Amal fighters did not take part in the confrontation because "the Syrian brethren didn't need any help."

A police spokesman, who cannot be named in line with regulations, said the two fatalities fell in Chiyah.

Shell explosions echoed across the low-income district sending residents rushing to bomb shelters and basements for cover as the call to Friday noon prayers blared from mosque minarets.

Syrian gunners deployed in Chiyah opened up from 130 mm Soviet-designed howitzers at the Christian suburb of Kfarshima, southeast of Beirut, where Aoun's forces maintain some artillery batteries, the police spokesman said.

He said Aoun's gunners responded with 155mm US-made howitzers, shelling Chiyah and the Druze suburb of Choueifat.

Aoun's tanks deployed in the suburb of Hhazmeh, east of Beirut, also shelled the Shiite slums of Sfeir and Moallem on Chiyah's southern edge, he added.

Only 200,000 people of Beirut's original 1.5 million population remain living in the city, which has been the main arena for ferocious shelling duels since the confrontation broke out on March 8.

Most of the evacuees have settled in safer areas in south Lebanon, the eastern Bekaa valley and the Christian-controlled mountain resorts north-east of Beirut.

The confrontation broke out after Aoun blockaded illegal ports run by Syrian-backed militias south of Beirut for denying the ailing state treasury about \$100 million in lost customs dues annually.

The Syrians and allied Muslim and leftist forces retaliated by shelling and besieging the 310-square-mile (800-square km) Christian enclave, home for about one million people north-east of the capital.

An Arab mediation committee has failed to solve Lebanon's crisis and blamed Syria for blocking its two-month-old mission.

Egypt yesterday welcomed an Iraqi call for an emergency Arab summit to discuss the Lebanese civil war.

France said yesterday it was determined to press for a peaceful solution to 14 years of bloodshed in Lebanon despite the failure of an Arab mediation effort.

President George Bush has telephoned King Hassan of Morocco to urge him to continue efforts to bring peace to Lebanon, the official news agency MAP said yesterday.

King Hassan joined King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid in an Arab League committee which announced on Monday that it efforts to halt 14 years of strife in Lebanon had failed.

The committee, set up by an Arab summit in May in Casablanca, was given six months to find ways of settling the conflict. But after two months of intensive contacts it said its efforts had reached a dead end.

More than 300 Filipino women who complained they had been stranded in Lebanon will be evacuated from war-torn Beirut and flown home, the government said yesterday.

Some of the women said they had been forced into prostitution.

## MIDEAST BRIEFS

### Algeria elections

ALGIERS, Aug. 4. (Reuters) Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah said yesterday Algeria would hold its first multi-party elections in early December.

He told Algerian Radio in an interview the elections for local and ways (district) assemblies would probably take place around Dec 7. A new constitution adopted last February paved the way for a multi-party democracy.

### Hunger strike in jail

ANKARA, Aug. 4. (Reuters) Nearly 1,000 Turkish prisoners were on hunger strike today in protest at conditions following the death of two convicted Kurdish rebels, a human rights official said.

Hundreds of sympathisers joined the 382 who started the hunger strike at the end of June after the two convicted Kurdish rebels died on Wednesday.

### Stolen artworks

NICOSIA, Aug. 4. (Reuters) Cyprus will try to retrieve more historic artworks allegedly looted from the Turkish-occupied north of the island following a US court ruling giving it title to priceless sixth-century mosaics.

Art experts said if the ruling had gone against Cyprus, it could have given the green light to a billion-dollar world-wide black market in antiquities.

### Seamen rescued

DUBAI, Aug. 4. (AP) A Soviet merchant ship rescued 15 seamen, mostly Indians, when their barge sank in the Arabian Sea, Gulf-based shipping executives reported yesterday.

But 1,600 head of sheep could not be saved and drowned, said the sources who spoke on condition they not be named.

The incident occurred on Tuesday in heavy seas outside the Gulf region with the cargo of livestock from Somalia.

The sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said the Nikolay Shukhin, bound for Kuwait, changed course to land the seamen at the southern Gulf port of Dubai.

They said 12 of the seamen were Indians, while two were Somalis and one was a national of Djibouti.

### Iran hangs 8

NICOSIA, Aug. 4. (Reuters) Eight drug traffickers were hanged today before a crowd in a park in the central Iranian city of Arak. Iran's IRNA news agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said they had been convicted of handling 84 kg (185 pounds) of heroin and opium.

The hangings took the total number of people executed on drug charges in Iran this year to 734.

### Egypt 'seeks subs'

LONDON, Aug. 3. (KUNA) The British Ministry of Defence refused to comment yesterday on a report that Egypt wants to buy up to eight Royal Navy submarines in a £200 million deal.

A spokesman for the ministry said it was not their policy to discuss defence sales or prospects.

But Jane's Defence Weekly said that the move followed the British and Egyptian governments' discussions on the signing of a memorandum of understanding for the submarines.

### Birthday marked

TUNIS, Aug. 4. (AP) Former President Habib Bourguiba marked his 86th birthday yesterday in the hospital where he underwent a prostate operation last month.

There was no celebration of his birthday in Tunisia — where it was once a national holiday — and most Tunisian newspapers took no notice of the event. By coincidence, the day was a public holiday in Tunisia because it was the Islamic New Year.

The weekly magazine Realities reported yesterday, without citing sources, that a second operation might have to be performed to clear his urinary tract, although some specialists believe his problem is caused by neurological rather than physical factors.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Higgins' fate:** The leader of Lebanon's pro-Syrian Shiite Amal said in an interview that US Marine Lt. Col. William Higgins was about to be released when Israel kidnapped a Hezbollah cleric in Lebanon.

Amal leader Nabih Berri told the Mideast Mirror by telephone from Damascus that Israel kidnapped Hezbollah leader Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid last Friday "as attempts to release Col. Higgins were approaching success."

Asked to elaborate by the London-based Daily Digest of Middle East news reports, Berri said, "the Higgins family knows a few things about that."

Amal is not believed to be holding any Western hostages, but Berri's movement, backed by Syria, has engaged in violent clashes with the Iranian-supported Hezbollah in Lebanon. (UPI)

**Criminal charges:** The Justice Department is examining whether the United States can bring criminal charges against Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, believed involved in the kidnapping of Marine Lt. Col. William Higgins, a White House spokesman said yesterday.

Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater disclosed that the Justice Department was looking into the case, the added, "there is no warrant for his (Obeid's) arrest, no charges at this time."

"The Justice Department, I'm told, is looking into the case but where they are I don't really know," he told reporters.

As for possible efforts to extradite Obeid to the United States, he said, "extradition is not an issue as long as you don't have charges or a warrant and neither of those is the case."

Law enforcement and White House officials declined to discuss further the inquiry involving Obeid. (UPI)

**Higgins was alive:** A Shiite clergyman kidnapped by Israel told interrogators he had heard US Marine Lt. Col. William Higgins was alive as of last week but that he did not know for certain, a Defence Ministry statement said.

One Israeli official said Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid may be subjected to lie-detector tests to help establish when Higgins was last seen alive.

A pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim group calling itself Oppressed on Earth claimed Higgins, who was abducted on Feb 17, 1988, was hanged Monday in reprisal for Obeid's abduction. (AP)

**Diplomatic channel:** President George Bush says he is pursuing every possible diplomatic channel to resolve the hostage crisis in Lebanon while

"prudently planning" for military action if a second American is killed.

With terrorists threatening to kill James Cicippio yesterday if Israel does not release a kidnapped Muslim cleric, the Bush administration was trying to tone down the sense of crisis that gripped the White House earlier.

A national television network, NBC, quoted unidentified administration sources Wednesday as saying the President had made up his mind to take some form of retaliation if another hostage is killed. But a senior Defence Department official, asked about the report, said, "I know of no such decision."

Bush said Wednesday he was carrying out his duties "with a heavy heart" in the wake of terrorists' claimed hanging of Marine Lt Col William R. Higgins.

The New York Times reported Thursday that the CIA told the White House it believed Higgins was probably killed before Monday. (AP)

**Senate votes:** The US Senate, displaying growing frustration with terrorist kidnappings and murders, voted on Wednesday to instruct the CIA and Defence Department to report soon on how best to locate and rescue US hostages in Lebanon.

The non-binding amendment, adopted on a voice vote, calls on the US defence intelligence community to detail past efforts and to prepare by Sept 1 a plan on how additional money and agents can be used to find the hostages and win their release.

Several senators said the United States should not shrink from using military force if that can be done with surgical precision.

And others rejected criticism of Israel's abduction of Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, a Muslim cleric, without informing the United States. They said the blame for the purported execution of Marine Lt Col William Higgins rests solely with his terrorist captors.

Much of the criticism of Israel came from Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas, who softened his tone on Wednesday but repeated his underlying message that Israeli "freelancing" endangered US lives. (AP)

**Central figure:** Israeli officials claim a Shiite Muslim clergyman kidnapped by Israeli commandos was a central figure in the Iranian-backed Hezbollah. They say he provided guns and money for attacks and was involved in car bombings and kidnaps.

But sources in Israel and Lebanon minimise the importance of Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, describing him more as a religious leader or a "cheerleader" assigned with making public statements.



# Interior Ministry studying prisoner rehabilitation

## Amendment of penal law recommended

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Interior has set up a research committee which is presently engaged in undertaking a comprehensive study on the rehabilitation of prisoners who have completed their term of sentence and will be once again returning to join the main stream of free society.

The committee has been directed to develop clear guidelines on methods by which these prisoners could positively

contribute to themselves, their families and society in general. Areas which the committee will be addressing will relate to education of prisoners during the time they serve their sentence, specialising in professions within their respective capabilities, re-orienting their thinking towards positively contributing to society and eschewing the higher values of decent human beings.

The committee which issued a book on its work also recommended the reconsideration and amendment of some articles of the penal law to effectively make it possible for these released prisoners to honourably be integrated in society.

**Recommendations**  
Among its various recommendations, the committee called for establishing a department at the Ministry of Interior to

monitor and follow up on the progress of these released prisoners or those who have got their sentences of imprisonment suspended. The department should also monitor the progress and behaviour of prisoners during the time they are serving out their sentences in jail.

The committee is also authorised to recommend that exemplary prisoners and those who have demonstrated their

genuineness to be law abiding members of society be released from jail even before completion of their full sentence.

The committee further recommended building a clinic to treat addicts and those who suffer from psychological diseases following their release from prison. The committee also recommended the establishment of a society to care for the families of prisoners.

# Only 23.5pc Kuwaiti boys register at KU

## Females outnumber males

THE number of Kuwaiti girls registered at Kuwait University is more than twice the number of their boy counterparts, an official release by the Kuwait University admission and registration department said. The release said that the total number of students registered at Kuwait University during the second semester of 88/89 academic year was 12,615 students, both Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis. It added that 7,966 of were girls forming 63.1 per cent of the total number of students. The picture is even clearer among Kuwaitis alone. The total number of Kuwaiti students at the university is 9,101 forming 72.1 per cent of all students studying at the university. Of these Kuwaitis, 6,132 are girls and only 2,969 are boys. The Kuwaiti girls form 48.6 per cent of all students at Kuwait University and are more than twice the number of Kuwaiti male students. The Kuwaiti boys at Kuwait University form only 23.5 per cent of the total number of students. They comprise less than 47 per cent of the number of Kuwaiti girls.

**Policy**  
The issue of girls, particularly Kuwaitis, outnumbering boys, figured prominently at a university council meeting held in June this year. The meeting was attended by Minister of Higher Education, Dr Ali Al Shamlan, University Rector, Dr Shuaib Abdullah and a number of senior university officials. After heated deliberations, the council approved a policy to reduce the number of girls at the university

at the beginning of the 90/91 academic year.

The outlines of the new policy will be detailed by a special committee to be set up next month. The committee will be entitled to study a new admission policy for Kuwait University to cover the next three years. Among the most important issues to be tackled by the committee is finding ways to increase the number of Kuwaiti boys at the university. The new policy is motivated by two important facts. First is the large number of girls compared to boys, particularly among Kuwaitis, while the second is the reported study that a large number of girls who graduate from the university do not take up employment, but instead settle at home.

### Admissions

Kuwait University this year has admitted 2,582 students, of whom 1,767 were girls. A total of 2,119 of the newly admitted students are Kuwaitis. Similarly, girls among Kuwaitis are more than twice the number of boys. The number of girls are more than that of boys in all colleges and departments, except in the Engineering College where there are 176 boys and 144 girls.

According to the university release, the largest faculty at Kuwait University is the Science faculty with 2,381 students. The number of Kuwaiti males in this faculty is 410 only while Kuwaiti girls are 1,032. Expatriate students also have a good share in this faculty with 939 students, of whom 480 are girls and 459 are

boys. The picture is more uneven at the College of Education, where 2,120 students are studying. Of these, 1,827 are Kuwaitis, girls number 1,586 and Kuwaiti boys 251.

### Expatriates

The picture, however, is totally different for expatriate students at the university. There are 3,514 expatriates at Kuwait University, forming 27.9 per cent of the total number. Among them, the number of females is 1,834 and that of males is 1,680. In addition, Kuwait University admitted 463 expatriate students this year, which is less than 23 per cent of the total number of admitted students. The percentage of expatriate students according to the university release is about 28 per cent, which shows that the percentage of non-Kuwaiti students at the university increases gradually, which could be attributed to more drop-outs among Kuwaitis.

The Medical College has 527 students, of whom 406 are Kuwaitis. Still Kuwaiti females outnumber males in this college. There are 208 Kuwaiti girls and 198 boys at the Medical College. Expatriate females are also more than the males. There are 63 expatriate girls and 58 boys. But in the auxiliary medical sciences, there are 28 Kuwaiti boys only against 234 girls and correspondingly there are 143 expatriate girls against only 70 boys. The Engineering College has a total of 1,487 students, of which 941 are Kuwaitis (536 are boys and 405 are girls). There are 398 expatriate boys and 148 girls.



**Freak kid**

A Kuwaiti citizen's goat delivered this "freak kid" which survived for only three minutes. The deformity is evidenced in the head which was inverted with the eyes, nose and the entire face being aligned towards the mid section of the body. It was like a strange apparition, the Kuwaiti said. Photo by Nasser Tameem.

# 10 caravan owners to be investigated

THE acting undersecretary of health and secretary general of the medical team for pilgrimage Ibrahim Al Mudaf has said that the team treated about 36,000 patients during this year's haj in the holy lands. He denied that the team discovered or reported any case of meningitis among pilgrims or that there were any contagious diseases among pilgrims coming from Kuwait. Most of the diseases that were treated by the medical team in the holy lands were normal such as cold and sunstroke. But he added that cases of sunstroke diminished this year compared to last year.

He referred the reduction of diseases among Kuwait's pilgrim to the health awareness campaigns made by the medical team to enlighten Kuwaiti pilgrims. He added that pilgrims were obliged to get health cards and required vaccinations as well as medical examinations before leaving for Saudi Arabia which reduced the case of illness among them.

Mudaf pointed out that about 10 Kuwaiti pilgrimage caravans will be referred for investigation for violating the health conditions that should have been abided by caravans.

# KISR develops polyvinyl fertiliser

DR Shawqi Lahaleeh, the researcher at the Petrochemical and Materials Department at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) delivered a lecture on the development of plastic foils which contain slow bio-degradable elements.

Lahaleeh said that these plastic foils have many characteristics. Because of its three main characteristics a patent was registered in the United States of America in August, 1987. The plastic foils developed at KISR have the capability of disintegrating. They contain fertilisers which could be applied in a slow time span according to plants requirements.

He added that KISR also registered another patent at the American Patents Office for the development of an advanced product of plastic foils. Newly developed plastic foils are composed of several layers in which elements contained in these foils are applied to soil according to specific time schedules of plant growth stages.

Lahaleeh explained that the institute has conducted several experiments on plastic foils on a number of protected agriculture produces. Other experiments were conducted on regular agriculture with the co-operation of the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries.

He pointed out that results obtained from these experiments were excellent and proved the feasibility of these element foils in increasing the quantity of produce.

He added that experiments where plastic foils were applied, agricultural produces increased at a rate of 30 to 100 per cent. Lahaleeh stressed that the plastic foils have different mechanical characteristics which make them better than other available commercial plastic foils. The foils only admit 5 to 10 per cent sun light to pass through, the official added.

Hadi pointed out that the EPC is interested in protecting the marine environment. He added that the Gulf water is polluted normally by the remains of oil tankers which mainly contain crude oil and oil derivatives. The council has developed a five-year plan to fight such accidents of pollution through the use of computer technology at the Ministry of Planning.

# Maidan Hawalli residents request more attention

MAIDAN Hawalli one of the overly crowded areas in Kuwait is being neglected by government authorities according to residents there. Upon looking at buildings there, one gets the feeling that the area is one of Kuwait archaeological locations. The high number of mechanics shops may make visitors think that it is an industrial area.

A local daily interviewed a number of Maidan Hawalli residents who expressed shortages in services and utilities.

**Harassment**  
Abila Al Alami said that co-operative society services are not complete. When she goes shopping many things are not available and prices are high. Available commodities are stocked in a disorganised manner which forces shoppers to spend a long time to locate what they need.

She pointed out that the area has enough garbage containers and that they are regularly cleaned by cleaning companies. Abila complained of youths cruising

around the block late at night and she hoped for a bigger number of police patrols to prevent such reckless practices. She added that a number of youths may find it amusing to harass housewives and girls by standing in front of building halls during the early hours of the day.

Abila stressed that the area mainly suffers a high density of population which causes problems which require looking into.

### Foul smell

Ashraf Ahmad said that the area suffers from not having a recreational area which forces most youth to either stay put at their houses or just stand in front of buildings halls at night. He pointed out that police patrols have prevented youth from gathering several times because they said that residents were being disturbed.

He hoped that a special place will be established so youth can gather and enjoy themselves instead of wasting their leisure times.

He pointed out that Maidan Hawalli Co-operative Society does not provide residents with all their requirements and that most of the available commodities are expensive compared to other co-ops. He added that there is a high number of mechanic shops in the area, particularly between residential buildings at complexes which makes anyone think that it is an industrial area.

He said that the area has enough garbage containers but, the authorised cleaning company does not remove waste on a regular basis which fouls up the air. He pointed out that many residential buildings require restoration and maintenance since they were built a long time ago. The high number of schools leads to traffic problems during rush hours he said and called upon police officers to organise traffic. Ashraf stated that the area should be included in Kuwait's afforestation plan so it becomes beautiful like other areas in the country.

Mustafa Mohammed Abu Moosa pointed

out that Hawalli clinic provides residents with good health services but, the dental section is always crowded and it closes at an early hour. He added that sometimes he is forced to purchase medicine from private pharmacies because the clinic pharmacy faces a shortage in certain types of medicines.

He added that cars get broken into on a regular basis in the area and he called for more security patrols to prevent such incidents.

### Theft

Mohammed Al Tahi said that Maidan Hawalli is considered one of the beautiful areas in Kuwait but, shortages in several services make it look very inadequate compared to other areas in Kuwait. He said that the area has only two co-op branches which don't provide residents with all requirements.

He added that the area does not have any gardens and that it is short of organisation and recreational areas for youth.

# New premises for Red Crescent

THE assistant secretary-general of Kuwait Red Crescent society Abdul Karim Jaafar has said that the society's new premises is about to be completed. He added that the new building of the society is located opposite the Kuwait Sporting Club in Shuwaikha area. It consists of six floors and will be furnished and provided with latest equipment

to facilitate providing a huge level of professional services. The construction work of the new building cost about KD 1.6 million. It will also contain a health centre, clinic and pharmacy to offer services to the public. The new premises also contain an Olympic swimming pool, squash playgrounds, a multi-purpose hall and a

basement which can be used as a shelter.

Jaafar pointed out that the society built hospitals in Pakistan for Afghan refugees. These hospitals are being run by the society itself. The society also gave support and relief to the people of Yemen after the recent floods there as also to the Lebanese people.

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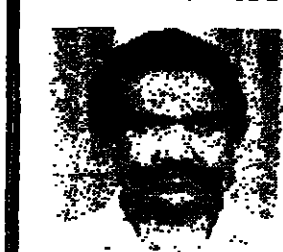
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### OBITUARY



## Rocky D'Souza

Born on 8.11.1950  
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Inserted by sorrowing wife Flora, children and parents.  
Funeral rites to be notified.

# Action Line

A CLOSE relative of mine desperately needs to see a psychiatrist. How do I make an appointment to see one?

**S.P.**  
ALMOST all hospitals provide psychiatric care. It would be advisable to seek the advice of your family doctor, or at the clinic closest to your home. If needed, the doctor can refer the patient to one of the major hospitals. There is also a Psychiatric Hospital in Kuwait, near the Sabah Hospital. Tel: 4843900/4814564.

**1. I have obtained a new visa and would be changing my employer. I have to go back to my country and return on the new visa. My family are on a dependent visa. Will they be affected? Will they have to go back with me?**

**2. What is the duration in which a driving licence must be renewed after its expiry. Is this duration extended if the person is out of Kuwait for a long period?**

**Mr. K.**  
1. AN immigration official said that it is advisable to make the necessary changes after the sponsor has normalised his stay in the country. If the dependents leave the country, he said, "usually, there is no obstacle in entering Kuwait if they have valid residence permits."

2. Traffic rules say that a driving licence must be renewed before expiry, without specifying how many days before expiry one is required to apply for renewal. It is advisable to approach the department at least one month before it expires to avoid further complication.

**I CAME to Kuwait in November, 1979 as a domestic servant. I left Kuwait and returned on a new residence No. 20 in 1985. I have been working with the same employer since then. Now, I want to ask for a release. If my sponsor gives me a release, can I change my visa from No. 20 to No. 18?**

**T. Ramiif**  
A PERSON holding a domestic visa can seek a transfer of residence only from one sponsor to another. For example, if you wanted to go to new employer, as a driver on visa No. 20, and your present employer gave you a release, you can apply for a transfer of residence. However, if you want to get a visa No. 18, you must cancel your present residence, leave the country and re-enter on a new visa.

**MY case is pending in court and I cannot leave the country until the final judgment is issued. My employer cancelled my visa three months ago because I don't want to work in his house. He told me I can't come back to Kuwait on his sponsorship. I want to know:**

**1. Can I work in another place, for example, in a cleaning company to get a visa?**

**2. If I get an NOC, can I go out to find another country even though I have been prevented by the court not to leave the country?**

**3. As my sponsor has my visa, does he have a reason to hold me in his house. Can he prevent me from working elsewhere? I have been offered a job by a cleaning company and they want me to start work. But my sponsor told me that if I leave his house, they will make a complaint to the court.**

**1. THE residence law says that a person cannot work for anyone other than his/her sponsor. As long as your passport is with your present sponsor, you are considered to be his responsibility, and cannot work elsewhere.**

2. According to the law, if you have been prohibited from leaving the country, you cannot exit. If you try to, you'll be stopped at the airport by the authorities, and punished, with a fine or jail, or both, depending on the severity of the offence.

3. As your case is pending in court, and you came on the present sponsor's responsibility, you cannot leave without his permission. According to the law, if you leave his home, he has the legal right to file a complaint against you for "running away." Even if he has cancelled your visa, he must have obtained an extension to allow you to stay until the court gives the final judgment. And this will make your case for the court more complicated.

**I AM a domestic helper. My contract with my present employer ends in 1990. Can I seek a transfer of residence to another employer even if they refuse to give me a release paper? Can I work outside on a visa No. 18?**

**May**  
YOU cannot seek a transfer of residence without the knowledge and consent of your present employer. A release paper is absolutely essential for such a transfer.

If a sponsor can obtain a work permit, a visa No. 18, you will have to cancel visa No. 20, leave the country and re-enter Kuwait.

**I AM on a No. 20 visa and the profession in my passport is "driver." I hold a valid driving licence from my country. I would like to change it to a Kuwaiti licence. Can I change it?**

**Ashraf**  
IF you have come on a driver's visa, then you can approach the traffic department with your passport, valid driving licence and your sponsor's letter. If you are working as a houseboy, the authorities may not consider your application.

**I AM working in the private sector. My wife is on a No. 20 visa and has conceived.**

**1. Can my wife use the facilities to deliver her baby at any hospital in Kuwait?**  
**2. Am I eligible to sponsor my child?**  
**3. Do we face legal action?**

**P.K.S.**  
THERE is no restriction on using any medical facility for delivery. However, you can't sponsor the child because both parents don't work in the private sector. A child born to a woman holding a visa No. 20 can't get a visa.

If you are eligible under the salary limit, that is earn KD650 in the private sector, you can sponsor your child.

According to the rules, both mother and child are liable for deportation if the woman holds a visa No. 20 and gives birth to a child here.

**I'VE applied for a domestic visa in Canada through a local agency, which has asked me to deposit KD90 to process my application. Are they allowed to recruit domestic servants for Canada?**

**M.M. Monteverde**  
THE Canadian Embassy in Kuwait charges a fee of KD10 to process an application, which can be obtained free of charge from them. No recruitment agency can guarantee visa to anyone. The Canadian visa can be granted only by the immigration authority of that country.

However, recruiting agencies are recognised by the law in Canada. Some reputed agencies can help a migrant find a job. However, getting a job is also not a guarantee of obtaining a visa.

We made enquiries on your behalf and were told that the agency you mentioned is a sub-agent for a Canadian agency. They take the deposit to process the papers and if you don't get the visa, they'll refund the money after deducting service charges, amounting to 25 per cent of the sum deposited by you.

**MY son, born in 1972, is studying in Kuwait. He has a valid residence permit upto October 1989.**

**1. What documents are required to get his residence extended?**  
**2. How many days in advance can I renew his residence?**  
**3. What documents are required to renew his Civil ID card?**  
**4. Is he required to go for finger-prints to obtain the Civil ID card? If yes, where?**

**H. Kassar**  
1. A SCHOOL certificate that he is enrolled at; your passport, photocopy of your Civil ID card and a recent salary certificate issued by your employer; plus his photographs.

2. All residence permits must be renewed one month before the date of expiry.

3. Copy of the page/pages of passport containing holder's details; copy of passport page containing new residence stamp; four colour photographs (3x4) with name printed on the back of the photos; finger-print form.

4. You must go to the Public Authority for Civil Information, where you are registered.

If you have a problem of any kind and need advice drop in a line to: Action Line, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait. Or fax your questions to us on Tel: 4847495. For more details call 4813566 ext 285 between 1 pm and 4 pm.

هكذا من الأهل



# Kuwait to retrieve relics of the past

## Excavations in three areas

DR Fahd Al Wihabi, Assistant Director of Kuwait National Museum said that excavations of ancient ruins and monuments in different areas of Kuwait will be undertaken to try and locate and retrieve relics that will give the present generation a glimpse of past history.

These excavations will specially be focused in Subiya, Kazma and Kuwait City. The museum has plans to organise

exhibits of its artifacts in Kuwait and abroad including an exhibit about rulers of Kuwait.

The museum will impart training courses for cadres on maintaining old books and restoration of old monuments. These courses will be offered during the new five-year-plan of the museum. A select group of Kuwait youths will be sent abroad to obtain a high level of expertise in the

various facets of museum disciplines.

The museum was opened in December 1957 in an old place. It contains different ancient monuments found in Failaka Island and Kazma area including some national heirlooms. The museum was relocated to Al Bader House in 1976—the house was built about 150 years ago. It was again shifted to the present premises in 1983. Only two sections of the new build-

ing were furnished due to the shortage in budget allocation.

However, plans are underway to furnish two other sections during the coming five years, namely the building of national monuments and the building of the ancient ruins. The museum has organised an exhibit in Bahrain to display some contents of the National Museum, Wihabi said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Amiri cable

KUWAIT, Aug 4, (KUNA): HH the Amir has sent a congratulatory cable to the President of Burkina Faso on the occasion of the West African country's National Day.

### Jahra governor

KUWAIT, Aug 4, (KUNA): The governor of Jahra Sheikh Saleh Sabah Al Nasser said ministries are currently constructing public utilities at the orders of HH the Amir to fulfill the requirements of residents in the governorate.

Finalisation of the projects, the governor said, is a matter of time as the bulk of construction schemes related to health, housing, traffic, power and agriculture.

The governor pointed out that he has taken personal supervision of project implementation.

He said the governorate organises special activities, such as the book week, the health week and the greening campaign to encourage social interaction and educate the youth.

Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad said he has visited the Ministry of Education in Cairo to discuss the Ministry's role in the development of Kuwaiti schools.

Sheikh Jaber, in an interview with Keifan Summer Club for girls and published in a local daily, said that during his visit to Egypt he sensed the Egyptian leadership's preparedness to develop relations with Kuwait in all spheres.

The minister said that participation in building their countries and ensuring success of developmental projects.

He said that information minister's message to carry out topped by spreading public awareness in addition to publishing beneficial data and entertainment.

He said that the decision to establish a foreign information body at his ministry was meant to foster the country's political, economic and civilisation image abroad and to reflect the modernisation and construction process in Kuwait.

### Charity funding

CHAIRMAN of the Kuwait Charity Support Committee for Palestine and Lebanon Ahmad Abdul Aziz Al Falah has said that the committee agreed to fund a number of charity projects tabled by local charity committees operating within occupied Palestine.

He told a local daily that it would be funding the establishment of dairy farm in Galilee at a cost of KD30,000, to alleviate the economic crisis in occupied Palestine, and to pay the cost of setting up a clinic for nose, ear and throat diseases at Galilee Hospital totalling \$75,000.

He added that the committee agreed to purchase an ambulance for the Tul Karam Zakat Committee at a cost of KD1,200 and to set up a dairy farm for a local alms committee there.

### Safety symposia

WITHIN the framework of its traffic educational campaign, the Kuwait Road Safety Society has organised six symposia for youths summer clubs, in co-operation with the Department of Scholastic Activity.

Participants in these symposia, which will be held in various youth centres, will be Dr Mahmoud Abdul Haseen Al Bisan, Dr Nabil Jaffer and Khaled Mohammad Al Jaser.

Topics to be tackled by the symposia will cover traffic safety procedure, road-using ethics, accident prevention and other vital information intended to heighten youths traffic consciousness.

### Business meeting

RIYADH, Aug 4, (QNA): Riyadh will host a symposium on industrial investment on Oct 3 and 4 to discuss the investment feasibility of a number of industrial projects, within the framework of identifying feasible investment projects within the Arab Gulf states.

The symposium, organised by the Gulf Industrial Consultations Organisation in conjunction with the Saudi Ministry of Industry and Electricity, will seek to assist businessmen select and decide the feasibility of industrial projects for undertaking at national or regional joint level.



Indonesian children's day '89

Indonesian Ambassador Djamiluddin Joeda and Mrs Joeda hosted a celebration of "National Children's Day 1989" Wednesday at their residence in Surra. A number of Indonesian children resident in Kuwait took part in the fun and games. (Picture by Haitham Murshid)

## New girls at university not afraid of co-education

DURING a guidance week organised by the National Kuwait Students Union—the university branch, a local daily interviewed a number of new university female students who attended.

Hanadi Mohammed Al Khateeb had first wished to join the Commerce College and was granted her wish. She said that she has chosen the commercial field believing that it holds a big future ahead because most commerce graduates usually find better job opportunities. Hanadi prefers to work for the government sector after graduation because it is not a routine profession. She pointed out that the week organised by the National Kuwait Students Union was very advantageous and that she expects to face many problems at the university because it is a different life altogether. She said that mixing with the opposite sex at the university is very beneficial because it will help her to know how to deal with them in the future.

Anaam Dashti from Sabah Al Salem Secondary School for Girls said that her first wish was to join the political science college, but she was not accepted and instead was admitted to the arts college at the Arabic language branch. She praised the guide week held by the students union and described it as very helpful for new students.

She pointed out that she attended the week because she wanted to understand the method and the measures required from her to transfer to the Political Sciences Department. She anticipated facing many problems with her transfer to another college and that she is full of ambitions for the new life style. She pointed out that mixing with the opposite sex at the university campus has its negative and positive sides. Mixing with the opposite provides an opportunity for an exchange of concepts and broadens one's outlook in life. Additionally it also increases the circle of friends, she said.

Hanan Taha Ismael from Farwaniya Secondary School for Girls said that she had obtained 97 per

cent at her General Secondary grade and that she came in the sixth place among the Arts students. She was able to join the Law College and wishes to complete her Masters and then obtain a PhD in this particular field.

Nahed Mohammed Al Kandari from Hadiyah School for credit hours was accepted in the field of Islamic Studies despite the fact that she wanted to join the Law College in the beginning. She believes that she will never face any problems from the university old buildings but, she anticipated encountering some problems from professors at the university because she has heard that professors at the college are not fair in dealing with students. Nahed is concerned that she will have to mix with the opposite sex at the university.

### No problem

Najla Abdul Rassool Karam from Mansouriya School for credit hours said that she aimed to join the Journalism Department but, was unable to do so because there is no Journalism College at the university. She instead decided to join the Language Department in the English language section because she was and is still interested in languages. She believes that university life will be very enjoyable but, said that she anticipates some problems as she will not be able to register at some courses. She said that mixing with the opposite sex will not pose any problems because it exists everywhere.

Manal Al Khors from Al Asma Secondary School for Girls was accepted into the Commerce College and wishes to go into a career in the banking sector. Regarding her views on the university in general, she pointed out that she feels a little nervous as university life is more sophisticated and the activities more demanding.

She believes that one of the main problems she is going to face during her study at the university is transportation because she lives far away from the campus. In addition, Manal pointed out that the Commerce College building is very old and requires restoration.

## Healthy diet will preclude deformity

THE head of the General Diseases Centre at the Public Health Ministry Dr Sadiqa Al Awadi has said that expectant women following firm dietary courses before and during pregnancy stand considerably lower chances for giving birth to babies with mental deformations.

Speaking to a local newspaper, she said that according to the results of a national survey performed by the centre staff involving all areas in Kuwait, foetal deformation rates dropped substantially among women following regular and well-balanced nutritious courses.

### Genetics

She pointed out that birth deformations induced by genetic factors were accountable to a number of reasons, some were purely hereditary, others were ecological and few were caused by a combination of both these factors.

She put the onus of some foetal deformations on certain chemical drugs, as proven by lab research experiments, among which are medications used by epileptic mothers, who normally suffered from violent convulsions and later gave birth to babies with hare's lip. More seriously still some of these women give birth to mentally retarded children as epileptic convulsions are responsible for a drop in the supply of oxygen to the foetus.

### Medications

She added that cortisone-containing medications administered during pregnancy were found to be responsible for deformations in babies, and so were smoking and alcoholism, which could lead to the underdevelopment of babies' heads, mental deficiency, cardiac disorders and in certain cases higher chances for still-births and post-delivery deaths.

She said that disease sometimes takes place as a result of the sickle cell anaemia. She added that in some persons, the shape of red blood corpuscles is sickle-like which is abnormal or take other abnormal shapes because of the lack of oxygen.

She said that a large number of patients in Kuwait suffer sickle cell anaemia besides those that carry only the genes. The disease appears when two sickle cell carriers marry and have children.

# Illiteracy rate among Kuwaitis 41.2 per cent

## 35 adult education centres

A RECENT study said that 41.2 per cent of Kuwaitis over 15 years old are illiterates. The study which based its findings upon the 1985 general census, was prepared by the Cultural Activities and Research Committee of the Kuwait Teachers' Society. The study was published in the latest edition of the society's magazine 'Al Mualem' (The Teacher). Based upon the same census, the study said that the illiteracy percentage among Kuwaiti males (over 15 years old) was 30 per cent and 51.8 per cent among Kuwaiti females.

The study said that among 170,758 Kuwaiti males in 1985, 51,331 were illiterate, while out of 180,582 Kuwaiti females, 93,558 were illiterates. Totally, there are 144,889 illiterate Kuwaitis. But recently, officials of the Illiteracy Eradication Campaign launched by the government, affirmed that the illiteracy percentage among Kuwaitis has dropped to less than 35 per cent.

### Education

Recounting the efforts exerted by the government of Kuwait to eradicate illiteracy, the study said that the illiteracy rate was very high among Kuwaitis over 30 years ago. It said that in 1957, the illiteracy percentage among Kuwaitis was 89 per cent. It was 87.7 per cent among males and 90.4 per cent among females. It added that in 1965, when the first general census was held, it was found that the illiteracy percentage was 77.7 per cent. It was 76.4 per cent among males and 79 per cent among females. To solve the problem, the government issued in 1966, the Compulsory Education Law which made education compulsory for girls and boys in the age group between 6-14 years old.

The study added that in 1970, illiteracy percentage dropped to 73.8 per cent, but it remained high among females with 82.1 per cent and sharply dropped to 65.5 per cent among males. In 1975, illiteracy further dropped to reach 64.2 per cent, with 55.1 per cent among males and 73.1 per cent among females. The percentage dropped again in 1980 to reach just 53.1 per cent, with 43.2 per cent among males and 63.3 per cent among females. The study stressed that the Compulsory Education Law has greatly



Kuwaiti males at an adult education class.

helped in forcing majority of boys and girls covered by the law to join schools.

The study said that the first effort to eradicate illiteracy among older Kuwaitis started as early as in 1950. The effort was useful although limited and was restricted to employees at schools, patients at hospitals, trainees at police centres and Army camps and at the cultural and labour centre.

This drive continued till 1957 as was supervised by the then department of education (now Ministry of Education). In 1958, the first officially-sponsored illiteracy eradication programme was launched. An official project for illiteracy eradication was jointly implemented between the Department of Education, and the Department of Social Affairs and Labour. In the same year, two illiteracy eradication centres for adult men were opened and 350 men enrolled. In 1963, two more centres for women were opened and 420 women enrolled. These centres were operating in the evenings, thus facilitating it for adult men and women (over 15 years old) to join. These centres offered only simple studies sufficient for a primary stage

level. As more numbers of students were completing the studies at these primary-level centres, new centres were added in 1959 to offer the intermediate level courses. The intermediate stage was completed in 1963.

### Centres

In 1966, the department for illiteracy eradication was transferred completely to the Ministry of Education and secondary classes were opened.

The number of illiteracy eradication centres rose to 22 centres for men and 13 for women in 1967. Together they offered courses to over 17,000 men and women. But the efforts of illiteracy eradication in Kuwait, were crowned in 1981, when an Amiri Decree made illiteracy eradication compulsory for all illiterate Kuwaitis. This decree has greatly increased the number of illiterate Kuwaitis who joined adult education and illiteracy eradication centres. The decree linked between literacy and employment and promotion, thus encouraging illiterates to get rid of their illiteracy. According to the latest available study, the percentage of illiteracy among males over 10 years old is 32 per cent and 52 per cent among females.

## World tour on a camel

A QATARI man who went on an around the world tour on the back of camels has completed passing through Saudi Arabian territory and is now on his way to Kuwait through Khafji. Saleh Mohammed Al Shemari said that it took him two months and six days to pass through Saudi lands.

He praised the aid and encouragement the Saudi authorities extended to him and said that his journey around the world will take at least nine years to complete.

## From the courts

### Schoolgirl, mother fined

THE Court of Misdemeanours has sentenced a school girl to a fine of KD50 and her mother to KD75 on the charge of publicly slurring the school janitor and the principal.

The court heard that the janitor saw the girl hop into a waiting white car soon after the school bus dropped her and intervened on suspicion to learn what was going on, but the car skidded off very fast, but not too fast for him to jot down the plate number.

The janitor reported the incident to the principal, but the girl soon returned to the school on foot casting strong expressions of disparage against the janitor.

When called to the principal's office to account for the incident, she denied the story and her mother had to be called in. The mother was upset because the social conduct of her daughter was in doubt. She spat at the janitor, calling him names and used strong abusive language in reference to the principal.

### Car theft acquittal

THE Court of Misdemeanours acquitted a man from the charges of trying to steal a car late at night. The court was told that the owner of the car was sleeping in his car by the side of the road at about 2.30 am. The accused was passing through in his car and thought that the car owner needed help. He went to him and found him sleeping in his car. The accused told the court that he knocked on the glass

panes for over 10 minutes but the man did not respond. Then thinking that the man was dead or seriously ill needed help he broke the glass. When the man inside got up he thought the accused was a thief. He started shouting for help. The accused frightened by the shouting man, quickly drove his car and went away. The man got the number of the accused car and filed a case in the court.

The accused said that he never meant to steal the car or harm its owner but wanted to offer help particularly after knocking on the glass for over 10 minutes. For that the court said that there was no evidence that the accused meant any harm against the car or its owner but ran away because of the misunderstanding.

### Acquitted on insanity plea

A MAN who was proved to be suffering of mental disorders, was acquitted by the court of misdemeanours for beating another. The complainant said that the accused used to beat him almost every day in Farwaniya. In the last incident, he beat him severely on the head and face and later the complainant reported the case to the police. When two policeman went to bring him to the police station, the accused refused and abused them in foul language.

In the court, the man pleaded guilty but submitted a medical report from the psychiatric hospital which said that he was admitted to the hospital for several months for treatment of mental disorders. The court then acquitted him saying that he was not responsible for what he did because all his mental faculties were not intact.

## BAHRAIN DIGEST

## Bahrain sees soaring temperatures this year

BAHRAIN experienced some of its hottest days on record during the past month as temperatures soared above normal this summer. According to the Civil Aviation Director's weather office the temperature on July 5 was the third highest for the month since records officially began in 1946, when the mercury registered 44.6 degrees Celsius. It was announced that afternoon temperatures exceeded 40 degrees Celsius on nine days, averaging 39 degrees Celsius for the month. The all-time record of 46.7 degrees Celsius was recorded on May 29, 1972.

The unusually hot weather coupled with rising humidity led to two fatalities and a number of people were reported to have suffered from acute dehydration and sunstrokes.

Sulmaniya Medical Centre, the island's biggest hospital, was kept busy treating an average of about a dozen victims suffering from the heat.

The two deaths that were reported occurred within a few days of each other in the same week with both victims being expatriates. The first casualty involved an Indian cook who succumbed to the intense heat while cooking in an enclosed kitchen which had no ventilation. The second victim who died was an unemployed labourer succumbing to dehydration while dazing outside in the afternoon sun. It was reported he had not eaten for several days and had no proper accommodation.

The two deaths spurred the medical authorities to issue cautionary notices to the general population to protect itself from the heat by not remaining outside for long periods and to consume a lot of water during the long summer months.

The hot weather invariably induced an increase in water consumption and sales of soft drinks have gone up considerably. Although the worst of summer now behind, considering the unpredictability of climate in the region there may be some days of intensely hot days in August judging by past experiences this comes as no surprise.

Meanwhile, a large number of islanders have continued to go on vacation abroad to escape the summer heat, with most airlines reporting no seats available for certain popular holiday destinations until the end of September.

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## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

If all our misfortunes were lumped together, with everyone forced to take an equal share, people would be glad to take back their own — *Socrates, Greek philosopher (about 470 B.C. - 399 B.C.)*

## PRESS REVIEW

KUWAITI dailies, writing editorially, Thursday held Israel responsible for triggering the hostage crisis when it kidnapped Shiite leader in south Lebanon Abdul Karim Obeid last week.

Daily *Al Watan* said the United States, which has been sponsoring and approving all the crimes against Palestine by the Zionist entity since it was established has become another victim to Israel in the Mideast.

The paper said Israel has always attached more importance to its interests than to the US interests, hence it does not care for the hanging of one or more American hostages.

This time the Israeli state-terrorism, that can be compared with the Nazi terrorism, has led to the killing of American citizens, the paper said and added that Israel has been dragging the United States from one problem into another, and Washington never considered separating the US and Israel's interests.

For its part *Al Rai Al Aam* compared the Western nations consensus on preserving their citizens rights and dignity and the "Arab regimes inability to adopt a decisive stance" similar to the one by the US for the sake of Col Higgins.

The paper said that if Arab regimes could not adopt such a stance in view of their interests with the US and Europe, nothing prevents popular and professional Arab organizations, syndicates and unions from joint endeavour for the sake of the Arab citizen.

It called on those organizations to co-operate and take the initiative in boycotting countries that harbour ill intentions toward the Arab nation or deal with it as a backward and uncivilized nation.

The daily warned that Arab causes are about to fade away due to absence of practical Arab solidarity and settling for "theatrical struggle." (KUNA)

Washington Post: In an editorial on the hostage situation in Lebanon, the *Washington Post* said:

"The character of the hostage crisis may have been substantially transformed. In its first few days it was a dramatic confrontation centring on Islamic terrorist threats to innocents' lives. Now, with the apparent easing of the most imminent expressed threat, that against three-year American hostage Joseph Cicippio, the crisis has avoided the immediate counter-escalation that his murder would no doubt have ensured and is conceivably becoming an opportunity to pursue a general release of hostages in the area.

"What this horrible event (the alleged execution of US Lt Col William Higgins) did was suddenly to reopen and reactivate a matter — release of hostages — that the United States in its frustration had pretty much left to the methodical pace of events. It dawned on American officials that perhaps in the more open political context created in Iran by the death of Ayatollah Khomeini some leaders might be prepared to consider a new approach...

"The pattern of hostage crises has become wearisome: horror and outrage, parallel preparations for force and diplomacy, dismay over the unsuitability of all options, absorptions in tactics and determination not to be consumed by the crisis the next time.

"We are not confident that this particular episode will end well, but from what penetrates through the murk it seems to us that President Bush is trying to do what has to be done." (UPI)

New Statesman: A respected British publication said that despite the present hostage crisis the heart of the regional instability of the Middle East is still the struggle between Israel and the Palestinians.

The *New Statesman* magazine said in an editorial that until there is a settlement of the Palestinian question there cannot be any stability "anywhere in the region from Cairo to Tehran."

It pointed out that the new hostage crisis will "probably burn itself out fairly quickly."

Meanwhile, with rather less publicity, a few Palestinians, probably very young and "very likely guilty of nothing worse than throwing stones, will be killed in the occupied territories."

The *New Statesman* underlined that a just settlement for the Palestinians would ease tensions in the region.

The *New Statesman* expressed optimism that such a settlement was now possible as all the "main Arab actors, including the PLO, favour a negotiated solution."

The Soviet Union has long declared itself willing to co-operate in an international middle east peace conference.

The weekly urged the United States to follow suit urgently, "not least because Israel is no longer a valuable property for American interests in the region, but overwhelmingly a liability."

It called on the United States to put much stronger pressure on Israel to accept the international conference.

In addition, the magazine sharply denounced Israel's behaviour in the occupied territories, underlining that it clearly breaches the fourth Geneva Convention on protection of civilians during wartime.

"The occupation is slowly, but surely, destroying Israel itself", the magazine concluded. (KUNA)

Al Itihad: Two United Arab Emirates newspapers today attacked Israel for kidnapping a Lebanese Muslim clericman that led to the execution of a US hostage and tension in the region.

"The Zionists carried out their operation while realising reactions will be significant," the Abu Dhabi-based *Al Itihad* said.

But it said it believed the abduction of Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid on Friday from south Lebanon was not merely for swapping him with Jewish hostages in Lebanon.

"The Israel operation is further than that. Its aim could be to draw the US and its Western allies for military action in Lebanon to sabotage the peace process in the Middle East," the paper said.

It said Washington seemed to be "responsive to the Israel plan as it has moved its fleet although no decision on involvement appeared to be taken."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1600 — Gowrie conspiracy in Scotland, when Lord Gowrie and his brother Alexander Ruthven seize King James VI, who subsequently is rescued.

1716 — Savoy's Prince Eugene defeats Turks at Peterwardein (Petrovaradin) in Russia.

1810 — Napoleon Bonaparte imposes tax on all colonial imports into France.

1850 — Australia government act grants representative governments to South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, which is separated from New South Wales.

1858 — First trans-Atlantic cable is completed.

1884 — Cornerstone of Statue of Liberty is laid at entrance to New York Harbour.

1943 — Capture of Catania gives Allied Forces command of Sicilian Straits off Italy during World War II.

1949 — US aid to nationalist China ceases. Earthquake in Ecuador takes about 6,000 lives.

1952 — Japan resumes diplomatic relations with nationalist China.

1962 — US movie star Marilyn Monroe is found dead in bedroom of her Los Angeles, California, home.

1963 — United States, Britain and Soviet Union sign treaty outlawing nuclear tests in atmosphere, in space and under water.

1971 — Turkey opens diplomatic relations with China and breaks relations with nationalist Chinese on Formosa.

1973 — Two men identified as black September guerrillas attack line of travellers at Athens Airport with grenades and machine guns, leaving 3 dead and 55 wounded.

1976 — Sudan military regime executes alleged commander and 16 other participants in abortive coup.

1988 — Iranian fighter bombers attack Iraqi troop positions near border with southwestern Khuzestan province.



Beirut: in a land where gun law is the only law. Shiite Muslim Amal militiamen brandishing automatic rifles and rocket launchers take up position at a street corner as they battle rival groups.

## Diplomacy and force both fail in Lebanon

## Carousel turned battlefield

THE failure of an Arab peace mission to Lebanon and the reported killing of a US hostage in Beirut this week proved the inability of diplomacy and brute force alike to settle Lebanon's bloody internal quarrels.

As a result, the country of just 10,500 square km (4,000 square miles) and three million or so people has fragmented, with two governments — one Christian, one Muslim and numerous fiefdoms ruled by sectarian warlords.

Once a playground of the rich, Lebanon is now a battleground for all the Middle East's conflicts. In a land where gun law is the only law, any of the numerous armed groups can easily take and hold hostages for political and financial gain.

Such a group is the Organisation of the Oppressed of the World, a pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim faction which said on Monday that it had hanged US Lieutenant-Colonel William Higgins, one of 18 Western hostages believed held in Lebanon.

Washington promptly dispatched 14 warships on unspecified missions into the Mediterranean, but US leaders were only too aware that the guerrillas responsible presented an elusive target for even the world's greatest military power.

The last Western attempt to send peacekeepers to Lebanon ended ignominiously after 241 American and 58 French soldiers, part of a four-nation force, were killed in suicide truck-bomb attacks in October 1983.

Since then Western governments, resigned to letting the bloodshed continue as long as its effects remain largely confined to Lebanon, have said it is up to the Lebanese and the Arab League to find a solution.

Lebanon's neighbours have fared little better with their interventions than the Westerners.

Israel's 1982 invasion of the southern half of the country drove out the Palestine Liberation Organisation leadership, but failed to impose a Christian-dominated government and caused the deaths of more than 600 Israelis. Israel withdrew from most of Lebanon in 1985.

Syria, which has occupied parts of the country since 1976 when it went in as the core of an Arab peacekeeping force, has been unable or unwilling to prevent fighting and kidnapping in the areas it controls.

The non-Syrian troops in the force soon pulled out and the Syrians became part of the problem they were intended to solve. Their losses are undisclosed, though clearly substantial over the years.

Diplomatic moves have also had no lasting success. Repeated peace missions by the Arab League have never led to anything more than temporary

ceasefires between the warring parties.

At the end of the latest such effort, the foreign ministers of Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Morocco reported in Algiers on Monday that they had "reached a dead end in both the security and political fields."

Diplomats close to the talks blamed the hostility between Arab rivals Syria and Iraq, the Israeli occupation of part of southern Lebanon, and the inability of the Lebanese to agree on how to reform their sectarian political system.

Though little had been expected of the Arab initiative, its failure inevitably cast further gloom over Lebanon at a time when the conflict that has been raging there with only brief lulls for 14 years seems to be again spiralling out of control.

At least 510 people have been killed and 2,000 wounded since fighting flared in March between Syrian troops, backed by Lebanese Muslim fac-

tions, and the Christian forces of Major-General Michel Aoun, who heads one of Lebanon's two governments.

Aoun wants Syria's 40,000 troops out of Lebanon, while Damascus says it will stay at the request of its local Muslim allies and has called for the general to be overthrown.

But Syria has its own reasons for staying. It needs to protect its vulnerable western flank and hold a bargaining card for use in possible future Middle East peace negotiations.

Israel, for its part, is holding on to Lebanon's southern border strip as a buffer zone against attacks by radical Palestinian groups.

Iran has seen Lebanon's downtrodden Shiites as a fertile ground for spreading its ideas of Islamic revolution, although newly-elected president Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has said he opposes this policy. (Reuters — London)

## Rafsanjani under pressure

ALI Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, whose secret dealings with the United States over hostages sparked Washington's Iran-Contra scandal, took office as Iranian President on Thursday under the pressure of a new crisis over American captives in Lebanon.

Rafsanjani, Speaker of Parliament for the past nine years, was elected last Friday. He has become the dominant figure in Tehran since the death of Ayatollah Khomeini on June 3.

Rafsanjani was sworn in barely seven hours before a deadline set by the pro-Iranian "Revolutionary Justice Organisation" for the killing of hostage Joseph Cicippio.

A central figure in the Iran-Contra arms-for-hostages affairs which rocked the presidency of Ronald Reagan in 1986, Rafsanjani has been publicly pressed by the United States to use his influence to save Cicippio and other captives.

US Marine Lieutenant-Colonel William Higgins was said by his abductors, another

pro-Iranian group, to have been hanged on Monday in retaliation for Israel's commando kidnapping of a Shiite Muslim cleric in south Lebanon three days before.

US news media report President Bush ready to strike at Iran if kidnappers kill another hostage. US warships have been reported approaching Iran in the Indian Ocean, as well as Lebanon in the Mediterranean.

Lebanon's Shiite Muslims have long-standing links with co-religionists in Iran. A network of violently anti-American and anti-Israeli Shiite groups is believed to hold all or most of nine surviving American and eight other Western hostages.

Denies Iran denies responsibility, but openly support Hezbollah (the Party of God), with which Israel and the West say the kidnappers are linked.

In the past few days, Iran has disputed the Hezbollah kidnapping link. Tehran complains that while uproar followed the reported death of Higgins, no concern

was shown for three Iranians who disappeared seven years ago in Christian areas of Lebanon.

Rafsanjani told the United States in a sermon delivered in November 1988 that "if you are interested in the freedom of your hostages in Lebanon," tell the (Christian) Phalangists to release our hostages.

"Then we will advise our sympathisers and friends in Lebanon to release any hostages they might be holding."

France and West Germany have already urged Iran as a go-between in recovering hostages.

Analysts are unclear how much control Tehran has over the kidnappers, but it was able to negotiate the release of three captives in exchange for arms needed for the Gulf War with Iraq.

The deal caused uproar in the United States because Reagan publicly opposed any pay-off to kidnappers and because it allowed his administration to bypass Congressional restraints on aid for anti-communist guerrillas in Nicaragua, known as Contras. (Reuters Nicotia)

## Polish power play changes nought

## 'Agreement and struggle' policy at work

ALTHOUGH many Poles will find it unsavoury to have a policeman heading the government, the election Wednesday of Interior Minister Gen Czeslaw Kiszczak as prime minister could mean very little change.

And that, from the public's point of view, may be the problem.

Kiszczak's election completes a reshuffle of the echelons of power.

Before the carousel began turning, with the presidential election July 19, the three most important figures among the authorities were Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski, Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski and Kiszczak.

At the end of the ride the three most important figures remained Jaruzelski, Rakowski and Kiszczak.

Now they have different job titles and roles to play, but the same team is in place for Poland's Communist Party to continue its contradictory policy of "agreement and struggle" with the reborn Solidarity union.

The party needs agreement with the opposition to cure the economic problems afflicting the country. But the party needs to struggle with the opposition for the hearts and minds of at least a part of the

population, in order not to be swept from power altogether.

Jaruzelski, the author of the policy who now has assumed as Communist Party First Secretary, resigned Poland's new office of president with ultimate control of the military and foreign relations. He is a guarantee to Poland's communist neighbours that moves toward democracy demanded by Solidarity will not bring any sudden change in the country's loyalty to the Warsaw Pact.

Poland's top leader before, he retains that power now.

## Player

In addition, he neatly prolongs his time in power. Party rules would have required him to step down as leader after the next party congress in 1990. Now he can hold the office as president at least until 1995.

Rakowski, whom Solidarity leaders would like to impeach for alleged mismanagement of the economy during nine months as prime minister, moves over to Jaruzelski's old office at party headquarters in Warsaw.

A strong-willed player of political hardball, he riled the opposition early in his administration with his decision to close Solidarity's birthplace at the

Lenin shipyard in Gdansk. And he riled it again at the end of his term with spectacular increases in food prices as he walked out the door.

Now that Solidarity holds a good chunk of the National Assembly — control of the 100-member Senate and 35 per cent of the Sejm — the prime minister by necessity must be able to work with the union's lawmakers. Always more of a fighter than conciliator, Rakowski did not fit the job description.

Enter Kiszczak. As interior minister since 1981 in charge of an army of uniformed and secret police, he knows the opposition better than anyone in government. His agents tapped their telephones and collected their illegal publications.

During two waves of strikes last year, Kiszczak opened channels of communication to the opposition and called for the talks that evolved into the historic accord that legalised Solidarity and led to the country's first democratic elections since World War II.

As head of the police, he had credibility with Solidarity as a negotiating partner and he did not risk appearing too soft to his colleagues when he made concessions. (AP Warsaw)

## Tattered ties

## US willing to make up

LESS than two months after condemning the bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing and imposing limited sanctions, the United States has made a strong appeal to China to help repair tattered relations.

After dancing around the prospect publicly for several days, US Secretary of State James Baker sought and received a private meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen — the highest level talks between the two countries since the violent events of June 3-4 in Tiananmen Square.

The session, held while both men were in Paris on Monday for peace talks on Cambodia, ran about 90 minutes, three times longer than planned. It delayed Baker's departure for Washington.

"One of the points (Baker) made was while the administration, the President, wants to preserve this relationship, if possible, we can't do it alone," a senior US official told reporters aboard Baker's plane.

"We are going to need some help from them and they need to understand the way in which the American people relate to what happened in China," he added.

Under pressure from Congress and others to demonstrate US outrage at China's violent crushing of student demonstrators, President George Bush halted military sales and banned high-level visits between the two countries.

But Bush, a former envoy to China who has had strong personal ties with leaders like Deng Xiaoping and has watched US-China relations improve dramatically in the past decade, resisted calls for stronger action such as severing diplomatic ties or economic sanctions.

The Paris talks on Cambodia provided an irresistible excuse for a US overture to Beijing. China is the main backer of the Khmer Rouge, Cambodia's most powerful anti-government guerrilla group, and its cooperation is viewed as essential to a peace settlement.

Underlining the sensitivity of Sino-American contacts, however, the US initiative was conducted out of public view.

During his talks with Qian, which involved only the two ministers and interpreters, Baker stressed that China's repressive ways are not understood by Americans.

"It was our view that if China does want to continue its reform, as it says it does, it ought not to turn inward and isolate itself through conduct that would not be understood by many in the international community," a senior US official said.

He described the talks as "frank and candid," a diplomatic euphemism to suggest strong difference were expressed.

Baker and Qian discussed specific steps that each side might take to improve ties.

US officials refused to provide details, although they said Baker emphasised Bush's "strong desire that we do preserve a relationship that has not just economic but political and strategic meaning for both our countries."

(Reuters Washington)

## Quote me

"People who steal bread to provide for their families can go to jail and these companies can hide reports in their files and go on." Dr. Sidney Wolfe, discussing the failure of US companies which make medical devices to report life-threatening problems to the government.

"I need something like Sister Mary Theresa and Madam Curie and, uh, Irma La Douce, a little bit of everything." Sylvester Stallone discussing what he wants in a woman.

"I think we need to ship Steffi off to Siberia. If she wasn't around I'd still be number one." — Martina Navratilova, on how to regain the top ranking in women's tennis from West German Steffi Graf.

"If we don't improve about 50 per cent from our performances against the British Lions, we may as well not turn up for the match." — Australian rugby coach Bob Dwyer on the eve of his team's match against world champion All Blacks.

"You can't jump eight feet every day, so I'm not sure I will be improving on my own world record of eight feet in the next competition." Cuban high jumper Javier Sotomayor.

"My saddest recollection was that of the Mexico World Soccer Cup in 1986, because I could see Argentina winning the Cup while I was lying on a hospital bed not knowing what would be happening to my life." — Argentine soccer star Passarella after announcing his retirement.

"The regulations are impossible to apply — rules like this will take us to the Middle Ages." — AC Milan soccer team president Silvio Berlusconi after hearing the new Italian Soccer League rules.

"Praiseworthy in intent but insane in content." — Berlusconi talking about the same Italian League rules.

"We've come a long way on extraterritorial enforcement of US law." — Former US Attorney Joseph DiGenova said about recent US success in prosecuting an accused terrorist.

"I am working on the basis that he is still alive because we do not have reason enough for thinking he is dead." — Perez de Cuellar said.

"I feel I'm improving my game. You can teach an old dog new tricks." — Tennis star Martina Navratilova, as her toy fox terrier, Katy, cavorted on the courts.

"Shakespeare is above nationalities and belongs to all individuals." — Tehran Radio said.

"We taught them (Europeans) literature. Shaykh Zubayr Bin William was Shakespeare. Shakespeare was Shaykh Zubayr. Shakespeare came from Shaykh. Yes, we even taught them literature. We are the ones who must be proud of Shakespeare. William is the son of Shaykh Zubayr." — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Khaddafi said.

"They could not pronounce Shaykh Zubayr so they said Shakespeare. Thus the name was adopted. Yes, Shaykh Zubayr. We could not be ashamed of that because we are more refined and have more warmth than they do, therefore, we should never have an inferiority complex as regards them. They are our disciples." — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Khaddafi said.

هكذا من الدّاهل



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Lukman sees oil price back at \$18

## OPEC keeps the taps up

LONDON, Aug 4, (Reuters): Evidence increased yesterday that OPEC has failed to turn down the taps on its excess oil output even as prices weaken.

The International Energy Agency (IEA), the West's oil watchdog body, estimated that production by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in July was unchanged from June's 21.3 million barrels per day.

That followed other oil industry and stockbroker estimates putting production well above 21 million, even though officials of the 13-nation organisation had said that a new quota agreement effective July 1 would cut output slightly.

The excess has helped drive down prices by nearly \$2 a barrel in the past month.

The UAE has pledged to restrain its excess. But IEA monthly oil report reckoned it actually boosted output by 100,000

barrels to 1.8 million a day last month.

The IEA estimate of total OPEC volume at 21.3 million barrels daily was slightly below a tally reached in a Reuters survey completed on Monday which, quoting industry sources, saw it at 21.5 million, its highest monthly volume this year.

From the IEA estimates, the three OPEC heavyweights, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Iran are all near their mandated quotas.

A daily index of average spot crude oil prices calculated by Britain's National Westminster Bank is already down to around \$15.58, a loss of \$1.70 from four weeks ago, reflecting the ample supply to the market of crude oil.

New York futures prices, which tend to lead the world market, were propped this week by fears over the risk of US military action in the Middle East.

OPEC president Rilwanu

Lukman of Nigeria confirmed on Wednesday that OPEC oil ministers will meet again soon, in Geneva on September 23, for another bid to fix agreed quotas. That makes the market cautious.

But analysts are divided on whether oil demand in the weak July-September quarter could soak up more than 21 million OPEC barrels a day without a big rise in stocks and weaker prices.

"A rebound in German heating oil deliveries during the second half of 1989 could result in rather strong growth in European oil consumption," the IEA said.

Latest data from the American Petroleum Institute, though, shows a big build of 4.6 million barrels in US petrol stocks.

"Demand is clearly lower than production," said Steve Turner, an analyst with London brokers Smith New Court.

Lukman said the price of North Sea Brent crude oil could

be back up to at least \$18 a barrel later this year if oil output stayed stable.

The current price is \$16.50, down from as much as \$19 in early June but far above the depressed levels of last year.

"It is true prices are weakening, but they are about to strengthen," Lukman told Reuters in an interview.

"Once the winter starts coming, and we maintain the same production as now, it can go up to \$18 and above," he said.

Discipline among the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries limited supplies to the world oil market and supported prices in the first half of this year.

But recent industry surveys suggest group output has climbed again to a total of around 21.5 million barrels a day in July — two million more than its self-imposed ceiling of 19.5 million for the second half of 1989.

Lukman, who is also Nigerian Minister for Petroleum Resources, denied Nigeria was selling 1.8 million barrels a day when its quota under OPEC's latest accord, signed in June, was only 1.43 million.

He said part of the alleged overproduction was going to rebuild local stocks of oil products, which had slumped because of breakdowns and maintenance closures at the country's refineries earlier this year.

Nigeria was also sending some crude oil abroad to be stored near its major markets in the United States and Europe, he said.

Oil prices dropped in the last half hour of trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange yesterday after the threatened execution of an American hostage was suspended, easing fears of Middle East supplies being cut off.

On the Merc, West Texas

Intermediate — the benchmark US crude for September delivery — ended the day at \$18.21 a barrel, down 7 cents. It hit a high earlier in the day of \$18.50 a barrel.

On the US Gulf Coast, where crude is bought and sold for cash, WTI was being quoted at \$18.30 a barrel, up 20 cents.

Unleaded gasoline, which had been expected to plunge this week on a Tuesday report of an unseasonal growth in supplies, lost only 0.19 cent to 50.66 cents a gallon on the Merc after trading as high as 51.65 cents.

Home heating oil was down 0.42 cent to 49.12 cents a gallon.

On the European spot market, Britain's widely-traded North Sea Brent crude was quoted at \$16.25 a barrel, down 40 cents.

The United Arab Emirates' Dubai light, the key OPEC crude from the Middle East, was being traded at \$14.35 a barrel, down 5 cents.



Rilwanu Lukman

## Growth grinds to halt

TOKYO, Aug 4, (Reuters): Japan's economic growth ground to a halt last quarter but government economists say they aren't worried.

They said the economy is already showing signs of picking up steam again, adding that growth looks certain to top the government's four-per cent forecast for the year ending next March.

"There's a good chance the expansion will continue until next spring," a senior government economist said. A slowdown in the April/June quarter was to be expected following the economy's stellar performance in the previous three months.

Government economists said the economy may have contracted slightly in the April/June quarter, after surging ahead 2.2 per cent in January/March.

Domestic demand sagged after the April 1 introduction of a three-per cent sales tax, they said. Exports probably also fell.

Consumers went on a buying spree in January/March ahead of the introduction of the tax so some let-up in personal consumption was to be expected, they said.

"We are already witnessing the gradual recovery of consumption after the introduction of the consumption tax," one said. "There's been some pick-up in consumption at the end of May and into June."

The Bank of Japan echoed those views in its quarterly economic outlook last week.

"The Japanese economy showed a temporary slowdown in reaction to the surge in demand in the first quarter of 1989 prior to the introduction of the consumption tax," the Central Bank said. "However, it quickly resumed vigorous expansion."

Government economists said strong capital spending and steady personal consumption should ensure that gross national product (GNP) grows faster than the government's official four-per cent forecast. Growth in 1988/89 was 5.1 per cent.

"Four per cent looks like a minimum," said one economist.

## HK banks cut deposit rates

HONG KONG, Aug 4, (AP): Hong Kong's leading banks announced today they would lower their prime lending rate half a percentage point to 10 per cent, effective Monday.

Interest paid on savings accounts and all deposits also were lowered half a percentage point across the board.

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank and Standard Chartered Bank, the colony's two note-issuing banks, announced the change in the prime rate. The Hong Kong Association of Banks, which represents all other commercial banks, disclosed the changes in deposit rates.

Indian rupees	17.940
Sri Lankan rupees	8.320
Pakistani rupees	14.070
Bangladesh taka	9.030
US dollars	29395
Pound sterling	48875
Deutsche mark	15895
UAE dirham	08010
Japanese yen	002168

## Plans to expand economic ties

Moscow keen to strengthen links with Arabs

MOSCOW, Aug 4, (KUNA): A Soviet diplomat said today that developing economic co-operation between the Soviet Union and the Arab countries was an issue of "utmost importance."

Deputy director of the Middle East Settlement Section at the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department Robert Tordey told KUNA in an interview that his country was currently passing through a fateful era that cannot rely on emotional evaluation of international relations.

He said that Soviet authorities' concern with internal problems inevitably would reflect on Soviet foreign policy.

Ever since Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev assumed power in the Soviet Union a new wave of restructuring (perestroika) of economic and political life within the country had been on the

move as well as the policy of glasnost or openness.

Tordey, meanwhile, refuted claims that the Soviet Union has an interest in prolonging the Middle East conflict to ensure continuation of amicable relations with the Arab countries.

He asserted that it was in Moscow's higher interests to achieve urgent and comprehensive peace in the region.

The Soviet official said that his country had succeeded in changing the international stances toward the Middle East conflict from calls for direct and bilateral negotiations to an international peace conference.

Tordey said that an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands will not achieve peace unless it was coupled with a peace treaty that ensures rights of all countries and peoples in the

region to living within secure and recognised borders.

He said that another important factor in such a settlement was the Palestinian people's national, legitimate rights and pointed out in this respect that the Palestinian intifada was a civilized reflection of the Palestinian people's political will.

The uprising had foiled the Israeli claims that a Middle East settlement was possible without taking into consideration the Palestinian people's national rights.

Asked to evaluate the Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir's election plan for the occupied territories, he ridiculed the attached conditions particularly denying the East Jerusalem Arabs the right to share in the elections and ending the uprising before conducting them.

## Steel workers unrest

## More than 600 detained

HELWAN, Egypt, Aug 4, (AP): A striker was killed when police stormed Egypt's largest metals company to break up a sit-down strike allegedly instigated by two of the company's board members, officials and newspapers said yesterday.

Two policemen and 14 protesters were reported injured in the clash, and authorities took into custody more than 600 of the 3,000 workers sitting in Wednesday at the plant's exit gate.

The government-owned newspaper Al Akhbar said at least 81 workers probably would be charged with resisting arrest, blocking production and destruction of public property. It said another 596 workers were being questioned.

Due to a Muslim holiday, security officials were unavailable for comment on the clash or the strike that prompted it, which was called to press demands for higher wages and improved working conditions.

Dias El-Tantawi, board chairman of the Iron and Steel complex at Helwan, said two agitators rallied about 3,000 workers from leaving at the end of Wednesday's morning shift.

"They used iron bars to stop the workers from leaving," El Tantawi said yesterday "this was not a question of wages or incentive payments."

He pointed to charred tyres that he said the workers had burned. Nearby, three trucks with

flattened tyres and broken glass stood at the gate.

The board chairman estimated property damage at about 15,000 Egyptian pounds (\$5,800) and said the loss of a day's work cost the company £2 million (\$800,000).

Work resumed at about half capacity yesterday as investigators toured the premises to assess damage. There was no sign of unrest or of extra security at the grounds, but 10 vanloads of riot-police were posted at a police station about half a mile (1 km) away.

The sprawling Helwan complex, 18 miles (30 km) south of Cairo, employs 24,600 workers, El Tantawi said.

"There definitely were political elements involved" in the strike, El Tantawi said. He refused to characterise their motives except to rule out Muslim extremists fundamentalism, often at the centre of unrest in Egypt.

The two alleged strike leaders, who escaped arrest, were board members elected under a Nasser-era law that sets aside half the seats on the board of a public company for workers.

Newspapers reported that due to a bureaucratic error, Industry Minister Mohamed Abdul-Wahab had suspended the men's board membership. It was unclear whether that played a part in the protest.

## Toyota to end use of CFCs by '95

TOYOTA, Aug 4, (AP): Japan's largest automobile manufacturer said today it will stop using chlorofluorocarbons, gases blamed for destroying the earth's protective ozone layer.

Toyota Motor Corp. spokesman Anthony McMillan said the company will discontinue use of the gas, which it currently uses for cleaning, cooling and foaming during manufacturing, by 1995.

Toyota used 2,800 tons of CFC during 1988, he said. The Toyota group, which includes affiliated parts suppliers, used 9,500 tons last year, McMillan said.

Nippondenso Co., a major producer of electronic parts and member of the Toyota Group, also has agreed to stop using CFC, he said.

Toyota's announcement follows decisions by Nissan Motor Co. and Honda Motor Co., Japan's second and third largest automakers, to cease using the gas by the mid-1990s.

The automobile industry consumes 14 per cent of all CFC used in Japan, makers say.

In Montreal, Canada, 38 countries agreed in 1987 to reduce production and use of the gases. Under the Montreal protocol, participating countries

must freeze their CFC consumption at the 1986 level by July 1 this year and reduce consumption to 5 per cent of the 1986 level by the end of 1999.

Riding on brisk demand for luxury models, imported car sales in Japan hit a monthly record in July, marking the 67th consecutive year-on-year rise since January 1984, the Japan Automobile Importers' Association reported today.

The association said sales jumped a whopping 53.0 per cent over a year ago to 17,339 units, bringing to 98,657 units the total number of imported cars sold in the first seven months.

finish at 1,349.18.

BOMBAY: After a sharp fall this week, prices recovered moderately on short-covering spurred by hopes that state-owned institutions would increase their buying. Baroda Rayon firmed 10 rupees to 525.

FRANKFURT: Strong demand for big chemicals underpinned shares and pushed prices higher across the board. The Real-Time 30-share DAX index jumped closed at 1,590.30, a rise of 15.42.

ZURICH: Swiss share prices recovered from earlier small losses to close mixed on average volume.

## Gold edges higher

## Dollar jumps on strong jobs data

LONDON, Aug 4, (Reuters): The dollar bounded higher in Europe today after surprisingly strong US employment data for July dispelled concern that the American economy was lurching towards recession. Dealers and economists said.

The Labour Department in Washington reported that non-farm payroll jobs rose 169,000 last month, or slightly below market expectations of a gain of 175,000.

But more importantly, June job growth was revised upwards to 250,000 from 180,000 and the jobless rate in July slipped to 5.2 per cent from 5.3 in June. Economists had forecast no change in the rate.

The news prompted market speculation that the Federal Reserve, the US Central Bank, would postpone for several weeks any further easing of monetary policy.

Domestic interest rates have been declining in recent weeks, meaning lower returns on dollar-denominated investments.

"This clearly dashes any hopes of any

additional (Federal Reserve) easing," said William Sullivan of Dean Witter Reynolds Inc in New York. "It shows the economy showing some signs of strengthening as the third quarter got under way."

The dollar closed in London at 1.8980 West German marks and 139.30 Japanese yen after opening at 1.8747 and 137.85 and at one point nudging 1.90 and 139.50 in European business. It had finished on Thursday at 1.8652 marks and 136.95 yen.

Gold edged higher, ending in London at \$370.95 an ounce after 369.75 at the close on Thursday.

Despite the strong dollar rise, many European dealers believed the US currency remained vulnerable.

"There is not likely to be a reversal in the dollar after five minutes and one figure," said Christoph Schneider of Bank of Fier Gemeinwirtschaft in Frankfurt. "The market is not bullish."

The dollar's rise was also limited by

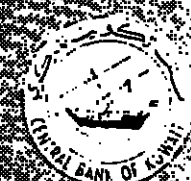
rumours in New York that the Fed has sold dollars to counteract the jump after the jobs data came out. But no such intervention was confirmed and no European central banks were detected selling dollars.

In London, share prices moved higher in moderately active late afternoon trade, after Wall Street staged an early gain on today's US employment data. Dealers said the employment data allayed fears of a US recession.

"The US market appears stable and that underlines positive sentiment here," one trader said. "Also...most people think GEC/Siemens' bid for Plessey and the Hanson bid for Cons Gold will succeed...if that is so, it will put a great deal of liquidity back into the market which should help equities."

At 1519 GMT the FTSE index was 21.7 up at 2,328.0.

High street chemist Boots was 4p up at 302 after news it had raised its final offer for Ward White to 44.5p per share from 400p.



## CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

### ANNOUNCEMENT

**For Subscription in Issue No. ( 64 ) for Treasury Bills  
Authorised by Decree Law No. ( 50 ) of 1987**

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinar for SUBSCRIPTION in compliance with the following Rules and Regulations:

#### 1. AMOUNT OF ISSUE:

The Amount of this Issue is KD 150 million distributed over THREE

Denominations as follows:

KD 50 000, KD 250 000, KD 500 000

#### 2. ISSUE DATE : Wednesday 9 / 8 / 1989

#### 3. DUE DATE : Wednesday 8 / 11 / 1989

#### 4. OFFERING PERIOD:

From : Saturday 5 / 8 / 1989

To : Tuesday 8 / 8 / 1989

#### 5. ALLOTMENT: Wednesday 9 / 8 / 1989

#### 6. DELIVERY OF BILLS:

After one week following the date of submitting the application.

7. The Provisions of this Issue shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Youm) No.1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.



**LONDON**  
(Alpha Stocks)

**LONDON**  
(Beta Stocks)

NEW YORK

7/1	SEAGULL INC	19/13	19/13
2/1	SEARS ROE	46/7	46/7
2/1	SERV CORP	21/10	21/10
6/16	SA STH PAC	22/16	22/16
2/17	SHELL TRAN	42/1	42/1
2/17	SHER PLOU	75/5	75/5
3/13	SHERN-WILL	34/10	34/10
3/13	SMITH INT	13/10	13/10
3/13	SNAP ON INC	34/35	34/35
3/13	SONAT INC	40/7	40/7
3/13	SOUTHERN	27/16	27/16
3/14	SOUTH FUND	15/15	15/15
3/14	SPEARS INC	51/7	51/7
3/12	SQUIRE D	19/15	19/15
3/12	SOURCE B	52/2	52/2
3/18	STONE CONT	26/1	26/1
3/18	STUN CO	57/14	57/14
3/18	SUNDRSTAD	77/10	77/10
3/18	SUNSH MIN	3/1	3/1
3/13	SUPER VAL	29/12	29/12
3/13	SOUTHWEST	26/3	26/3
3/13	SW GAS	18/17	18/17
3/15	SAN BELL	57/10	57/10
3/15	TCBY ENT	25/5	25/5
3/13	TDK	0	42/2
3/13	TECO ENER	27/1	27/1
3/17	TEKTRONIX	22/10	22/10
3/17	TELETYPE	60/16	60/16
3/17	TELEWYNN	57/18	57/18
3/17	TERADYNE	11/4	11/4
3/17	TESORO PET	10/3	10/3
3/17	TEXACO	52/16	52/16
3/13	TEXAS IND	34/3	34/3
3/13	TEXAS INST	39/10	39/10
3/13	TEXAS UTIL	33/5	33/5
3/13	THOMAS IND	19/17	19/17
3/13	TIDEMATER	0	9/2
3/17	TIME INCOR	142/16	142/16
3/17	TIMKEN	36/7	36/7
3/17	TIMBERMARK	48/16	48/16
3/16	TOSCO	17/12	17/12
3/16	TOYS R US	31/7	31/7
3/17	TRANASER	43/17	44/12
3/17	TRANSCO EN	47/17	47/17
3/16	TRANSCO EX	12/1	12/1
3/16	TRAVELLERS	44/10	44/10
3/16	TRINITY IN	44/16	44/16
3/16	TRIP CORP	33/7	33/16
3/16	UAL CORP	17/22	17/10
3/16	UTD BRAND	16/2	16/2
3/16	UNILIVER	54/1	54/1
3/16	UNION CAMP	39/1	39/17
3/16	UNION CARB	28/1	28/14
3/16	US SHOE	20/4	20/4
3/17	USX CP	34/5	35/11
3/17	US WEST	23/2	23/2
3/15	US-ABB-GE	50/12	50/12
3/17	VALERO INC	16/2	16/14
3/14	VALLEY IND	-1/3	-1/3
3/14	VARCO-INTL	4/7	5/10
3/14	VARIAN ASSP	27/14	27/12
3/16	V-PRT PEPP	56/10	56/10
3/17	WABCO OIL	7/15	7/15
3/17	WAL-MART	41/16	42/20
3/17	WALGREEN	47/13	47/13
3/14	WARNER COM	67/10	66/17
3/14	WARNER LAN	107/14	107/15
3/16	WASTE MAN	57/12	57/15
3/16	WASH GAS L	28/5	28/5
3/17	WEST CO	6/0	6/0
3/17	WEST CO	21/2	21/3
3/17	WESTINGHSE	69/10	69/12
3/17	WILLIAMS E	12/14	12/15
3/17	WITNBEGAB	7/3	7/1
3/17	WOLVER W	12/7	12/7
3/17	WOLWORTH	58/16	58/17
3/17	WORLDCORP	11/67	11/67
3/17	WRIELEY	47/15	47/16
3/17	WYAE LABS INC	8/1	8/1
3/17	WYLAB CORP	67/11	67/12
3/17	ZAPATA	3/2	3/4
3/17	ZENITH EL	16/4	16/4
3/17	ZERO	21/3	21/4
3/17	ZURN	43/16	43/16

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# WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1989

## International Bond Highlights

ROME: Italy said it was giving Argentina's new Peronist government 150 mln drs in emergency aid to help fight the country's economic crisis.

Bonn: The West German government will reschedule about 1.5 billion marks of debt owed by Nigeria as part of a Paris Club agreement to provide debt relief, the Finance Ministry said.

Tokyo: Outstanding volume of over-the-counter bond options was 4.45 trillion yen at the end-June, up 63 pct from 2.73 trillion at end-May, the Japan Securities Dealers Association said in a statement.

Singapore: The United Overseas Bank Ltd said it proposes a rights issue of 167.95 mln Singapore drs of 1.5 pct unsecured loan stock with detachable warrants to subscribe for approximately 42.0 mln new shares.

Tokyo: Japan will offer development aid to countries in the Sahel region of Africa to build underground reservoirs to halt spread of the Sahara, a government official said.

Copenhagen: Danish savings bank group Sparekassen SDS said it has begun selling further quantities of Swedish mortgage bonds on the Copenhagen market for Sinitab, Sweden's largest mortgage institute.

## BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GNFC	31	31	30.50	NAT ORG	--	--	--
ACC	327.50	241	246	GRASIN	113	113.50	113	NIPPO	38	40
ALCO-CHEN	--	--	--	GSFC	161.25	157.50	160	MOCIL	960	960
ALU MIS	--	--	--	GUJ ALK	66	67.50	68.50	ORKAY	15	15
ART FIB	--	--	--	GUJ HEAVY	10.50	9.50	10.50	OSVAL AGRO	73	72.50
ASHOK LEY	67.50	65	62.50	HERO HONDA	19.50	20	19	PEICO	19	19
ASIA PAINT	193.75	192.50	193.75	HIND CIBA	780	780	795	PFIZER	62	61
ATLAS COP	33	33	35	HIND COCOA	108	108.75	110	PONDS	160	162.50
AUTO CORP	65	66	65	HIND LEVER	91	91	91.50	PREN AUTO	51	51.50
BAJAJ AUTO	317.50	320	315	HIND MOTOR	31.50	32.50	31.25	RAMBAXI	77.50	70
BAR RAYON	515	517.50	525	HINDALCO	250	252.50	252.50	RAY WOOL	83	82
BK BOND	80	79	80	HODICEST	720	730	730	RECKITT	180	177.50
BLOW PLAST	--	--	--	IND ORG	36.50	37	37.25	RELANCE	108.50	110.50
BON DYE	121	122	117.50	IND RAYON	77.50	78	77.50	SESA GOA	39	36
BSE INDEX	716.55	716.80	716.80	INDRROL	267.50	266.25	267.50	SHAW WALL	--	--
BURR MEL	185	180	187.50	INGERSOLL	380	375	380	SHREE CEM	--	--
CANSAHRE	--	--	--	ITC	112	112	112	SHRI FIB	78	76
CEN-ENKA	2750	2725	2725	JK SYN	74.50	74.50	74.50	SIEMENS	67	65
CEN SFG	1945	1950	1950	KIN ENGE	132.50	130	135	SKF	1170	1200
COLGATE	307.50	307.50	307.50	KIR CLUM	61	61	59	SPIC	48.25	47.25
CROH GR	1325	1300	1275	KSR PUMPS	375	360	370	ST HILLS	320	315
DCM	11.50	10.50	11.50	L AND T	114	114	114	TATA CHEM	118	118
DEEP FERT	27	27	28	LIPTON	68	70	69	TATA OIL	70	67.50
DUNLOP	78	76	78	NAS RUSSEL	106.25	110	108	TATA POM	340	340
EI HOTELS	57	56	58	NAD COATS	102	100	102	TELCO	992.50	1000
ESKORTE	66	65	66.50	MAHINDRA	87	88	88.75	THAP AGRO	--	--
ESKAYE	117.50	117.50	116.25	NAS SHARE	15.75	15.50	15.65	TISSCO	1285	1293
ESSAR SFG	25.50	25.35	25.50	MICO	600	605	600	VAM ORG	157.50	162
FOODSPL	160	161.25	160	MILKFOOD	195	190	192.50	VARELI	22.50	22.50
FORBES	47.50	46.25	48	MOOI	85	86	88	VOLTA	850	845
GNR POLY	67	66	66.50	NRF LTD	350	340	342.50	WIMCO	15.50	15
GE SHIPPING	37	37.50	38.50	NULK JRON	125	126	125	ZENITH	52	54
GEINDIA	84	83	85	NAT INDEX	371.50	369.21	369.21	ZIARI AGRO	69	68

## FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR	CLSE
ALCO-CHEN	226.50	226.50
ALU MIS	218.50	218.50
ART FIB	229.50	229.50
ASHOK LEY	317.50	317.50
ASIA PAINT	193.75	193.75
ATLAS COP	33	33
AUTO CORP	65	65
BAJAJ AUTO	317.50	317.50
BAR RAYON	515	515
BK BOND	80	80
BLOW PLAST	--	--
BON DYE	121	121
BSE INDEX	716.55	716.55
BURR MEL	185	185
CANSAHRE	--	--
CEN-ENKA	2750	2750
CEN SFG	1945	1945
COLGATE	307.50	307.50
CROH GR	1325	1325
DCM	11.50	11.50
DEEP FERT	27	27
DUNLOP	78	78
EI HOTELS	57	57
ESKORTE	66	66
ESKAYE	117.50	117.50
ESSAR SFG	25.50	25.50
FOODSPL	160	160
FORBES	47.50	47.50
GNR POLY	67	67
GE SHIPPING	37	37
GEINDIA	84	84

## TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR	CLSE
ALCO-CHEN	226.50	226.50
ALU MIS	218.50	218.50
ART FIB	229.50	229.50
ASHOK LEY	317.50	317.50
ASIA PAINT	193.75	193.75
ATLAS COP	33	33
AUTO CORP	65	65
BAJAJ AUTO	317.50	317.50
BAR RAYON	515	515
BK BOND	80	80
BLOW PLAST	--	--
BON DYE	121	121
BSE INDEX	716.55	716.55
BURR MEL	185	185
CANSAHRE	--	--
CEN-ENKA	2750	2750
CEN SFG	1945	1945
COLGATE	307.50	307.50
CROH GR	1325	1325
DCM	11.50	11.50
DEEP FERT	27	27
DUNLOP	78	78
EI HOTELS	57	57
ESKORTE	66	66
ESKAYE	117.50	117.50
ESSAR SFG	25.50	25.50
FOODSPL	160	160
FORBES	47.50	47.50
GNR POLY	67	67
GE SHIPPING	37	37
GEINDIA	84	84

## Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE MIXED IN VERY TIGHT TRADING

TOKYO, AUG 4, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED MIXED IN VERY TIGHT TRADING, AFTER LANGUISHING IN NEGATIVE TERRITORY ALL DAY AS MOST INSTITUTIONS QUIT EARLY, BROKERS SAID. "THE MARKET SEEMED TO TAKE AN UNANNOUNCED THREE-DAY WEEKEND," SAID AN EQUITY SALESMAN FOR A FOREIGN SECURITIES HOUSE.

INVESTORS LIMITED BUYING TO INCENTIVE-BACKED SHARES, AND HIGH-PRICED STOCKS THAT ARE EASY TO MOVE IN SUCH LOW TURNOVER. SOME ELECTRICALS WERE RECHARGED AFTER THEIR RECENT SLUMP. BROKERAGE SHARES LED THE LOSERS.

THE KEY 225-SHARE NIKKEI INDEX EASED 37.82 POINTS TO 3,741.99 AFTER SLIPPING 119.53 POINTS ON THURSDAY.

TURNOVER WAS ABOUT 350 MLN SHARES AGAINST 500 MLN ON THURSDAY.

"THE MAIN FACTOR TODAY IS THAT INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS SEEN TO HAVE STARTED THEIR SUMMER HOLIDAYS," SAID A TRADER FOR KOKUSAI SECURITIES. FOREIGNERS WERE NET SELLERS, AND INDEX-LINKED INVESTMENT TRUST FUNDS ALSO SOLD, BROKERS SAID.

"IT'S MORE A MATTER OF WHAT IS OR IS NOT BEING SOLD THAN WHAT IS BEING BOUGHT," THE KOKUSAI TRADER SAID.

THE NIKKEI CLIMBED ONLY 36.36 POINTS IN THE WEEK, AFTER BREAKING THROUGH THE 35,000 MARK TO A NEW RECORD HIGH OF 35,015.93 POINTS ON WEDNESDAY.

MANY INSTITUTIONS HAD TARGETED 35,000 ON THE NIKKEI AS THEIR PROFIT-TAKING MARK, WHICH HELPED CAP THE SHARP 1,600-POINT RALLY THAT ENDED LAST MONDAY, ANALYSTS SAID.

THE BROADER FIRST SECTION INDEX, OR TOPIX, EASED 3.42 POINTS TO 2,613.27 AFTER LOSING 16.55 ON THURSDAY.

FALLS BARELY EDGED RISES, WITH 430 ISSUES LOWER, 416 HIGHER AND 240 UNCHANGED.

INVESTORS ARE FAVOURING SMALL- AND MEDIUM-CAPITAL SHARES, WHICH POSTED GAINS WHILE THE LARGE CAPS EASED, BROKERS SAID.

"THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ENERGY TO MOVE THE DOMESTIC DEMAND SHARES," SAID TADAOKI UENARA, ANALYST FOR WAKO SECURITIES.

## Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, AUG 4, REUTER - RUMOURS THAT SENIOR CHINESE LEADER DENG XIAOPING'S HEALTH IS FAILING SENT HONG KONG'S HANG SENG INDEX TUMBLING TO END 55.51 POINTS LOWER AT 2,579.07 DESPITE A LATE BOUNCE, BROKERS SAID.

THE RUMOURS, ORIGINATING IN JAPAN, ABRUPTLY HALTED THE 2-1/2 WEEK RALLY, BRAGGING THE INDEX OFF FROM A MID-MORNING HIGH OF 2,650 TO A LOW OF 2,550.

"AS LONG AS THEY ARE NOT TRUE THEY COULD BE A GOD-SEND AS WE NEEDED A CORRECTION," SAID ONE BROKER.

ANOTHER SAID THE RUMOURS, WHICH SURFACE PERIODICALLY, "INJECTED A DOSE OF REALITY INTO THE MARKET."

## US economic statistics

	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
INFLATION	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	+0.7 PCT	+0.6 PCT	+0.2 PCT	8/18
PRODUCER PRICES	+0.4 PCT	+0.9 PCT	+0.1 PCT	8/11
HOUSE TRADE	-8.26 BLN	-10.24 BLN	8/17	
	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	1ST QTR
C/A BAL OF PAYMENT	-30.15 BLN	-29.17 BLN	-32.02 BLN	-27.63 BLN
(8/21)				
	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	1ST QTR	2ND QTR
GDP (1ST REV 8/29)	+2.5 PCT	+2.4 PCT	+3.7 PCT	+1.7 PCT
GDP DEFLATOR	+5.3 PCT	+4.2 PCT	+4.0 PCT	+4.9 PCT
	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
LEADING IND	0.6 PCT	-1.3 PCT	-0.1 PCT	9/1
PERSONAL INC	+0.6 PCT	+0.2 PCT	+0.3 PCT	8/30
UNEMPLOYMENT	5.3 PCT	5.2 PCT	5.3 PCT	5.2 PC
EMPLOYMENT	+117.00	+207.00	+250.00	+169.00
HOUSING STARTS	+1,339 MLN	+1,311 MLN	+1,400 MLN	8/16
IND PRODUCTION	+0.6 PCT	-0.1 PCT	-0.2 PCT	8/16
CONSUMER CREDIT	+2.49 BLN	+3.60 BLN	8/7	
RETAIL SALES	+1.0 PCT	+0.1 PCT	-0.4 PCT	8/11
INVENTORIES	+0.8 PCT	+0.7 PCT	8/14	8/14
DURABLE GOODS	+3.2 PCT	-4.4 PCT	-0.3 PCT	8/22
	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
TRADE BALANCES - BILLIONS LOCAL CURRENCY				
PROVISIONAL	LATEST MONTH	PREV. MONTH	YEAR AGO	
BELGIUM/LUX	MAR* +13.0	+19.5	-0.8	
CANADA	APR +129	+417	+1.10	
FRANCE	JUN -2.8	-6.7 R	-0.9	
ITALY	MAY -2.118	-1.663	-383	
JAPAN-US DLRS	JUN +6.44	+5.06	+7.39	
NETHERLANDS	MAY* +1.1	+0.2	-0.7	
SWITZERLAND	JUN* -0.979	-1.152	-0.804	
U.K.	JUN* -1.49	-1.32	-0.95	
U.S.	APR -8.26	-9.54	-8.80	
W.GERMANY	APR* +9.9	+12.8	+9.5	
	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
CURRENT A/C BALANCE OF PAYMENTS				
PROVISIONAL	LATEST QUARTER	PREV. QUARTER	YEAR-AGO	
BELGIUM/LUX	Q1 +32.0	+38.0 R	+38.0	
CANADA	Q1 -3.7	-3.9	-4.8	
FRANCE	Q1 +6.5	-21.8 R	+7.9	
JAPAN-US DLRS	Q1 15.76	23.59	18.42	
NETHERLANDS	Q1 +4.76	+3.29	+2.83	
U.K.	Q1 -4.83	-5.58	-2.99	
U.S.	Q1 30.46	32.02	-33.446	
W.GERMANY	Q1 37.46	19.66	16.84	
	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
FIGURES IN BILLIONS OF LOCAL CURRENCY.				
REAL NATIONAL INCOME - PCT CHANGE				

## PHILIPPINES MAKATI

STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	LC-B	LC-C
AC-A	35.00	35.50	36.50	LC-B	.33	.34
ANS	3.10	3.15	3.10	PK-A	.32	.32
GLO	23.50	23.75	24.00	PK-B	.33	.34
PLDT	417.50	420.00	410.00	OIL SECTOR		
KPSI-A	4.20	4.25	4.20	BP-A	.011	.012
SMC-A	79.50	80.00	81.00	BP-B	.012	.013
SMC-B	115.00	116.00	116.00	LC-A	.0038	.0038
MINING SECTOR				LC-B	.0038	.0042
APX-A	.014	.015	.016	OPM-A	.047	.048
APX-B	.016	.017	.018	OPM-B	.05	.0525
AT-A	51.00	51.50	53.00	OV-A	.039	.04
				OV-B	.045	.046

## Makati Stock Market Report

SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	7,949,185	108,657,940	1,598.73	0.99 D
MINING	205,110,150	21,625,330	5,801.53	122.24 U
OIL	1,203,500,008	39,556,520	7,380	-0.094 U
COMP	1,416,559,335	169,839,790	1,189.96	10.16 N

## PHILIPPINES MANILA

STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	LC-B	LC-C
AC-A	35.00	35.50	36.50	LC-B	.33	.34
ANS	3.10	3.15	3.10	PK-A	.32	.32
GLO	23.50	23.75	24.00	PK-B	.33	.34
PLDT	417.50	420.00	410.00	OIL SECTOR		
KPSI-A	4.20	4.25	4.20	BP-A	.011	.012
SMC-A	79.50	80.00	81.00	BP-B	.012	.013
SMC-B	115.00	116.00	116.00	LC-A	.0038	.0038
MINING SECTOR				LC-B	.0038	.0042
APX-A	.014	.015	.016	OPM-A	.047	.048
APX-B	.016	.017	.018	OPM-B	.05	.0525
AT-A	51.00	51.50	53.00	OV-A	.039	.04
AT-B	56.50	57.00	57.50	OV-B	.045	.046

## Manila Stock Market Report

SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	12,401,630	105,620,367	5,159.95	UP 4.66
MINING	297,180,600	25,850,705	5,507.98	DN 53.48
OIL	857,650,000	25,718,900	7,771	DN 0.200
TOTAL	1,167,232,230	157,189,972	5,119.26	DN 9.34

## SINGAPORE

NAME	LAST PR	CL	G	K	98	99	KEPPEL	510	510
ADEF A			G LUMBER	195	98	99	KUMP EMAS	141	142
ADEF B			G TOWN			104	M CEMENT	224	230
AJINOMOTO			G U HDLGS	----	102	M CONT	140	142	
AMAL IND	138	143	GANDA HDG	52	52.5	M FEEDML	----	34	
AMAL PROP	39.5	40.5	GEN CORP	98	101	M FLOOR	273	277	278
AMCOL	132	134	GOLD COCH	395	615	M GLASS	396		
BERJAYA	164	168	GUI	148	149	M UTD IND	288	292	
BOUSTEAD	158	154	GUINNESS	----	148	M UTD MFG	133	138	
CARLSBERG			GULA		28.5	M SHITA	730		
CEB			320	GUTHRIE	86	82	MAGNUM	354	372
CEREBOBS	510	510	M L IND.	328	328	M GEN IND	126		
CHEM IND		285	HAW PARAI	119	120	MCB HDGS	124	126	
CK TANG	460	460	HAW PARAI	306	308	HINEBEA			
COLD STOR	366	368	HEXZA	89	89	MULTIPURP	101	103	
CS HDLGS	58	61.5	IMMO-PAC	128	132	MURATA	60		
DKH			INNOVEST	106	107	NATL IRON	855	850	
DNIB BHD	164	169	INSAS	42.5	43	NOL LTD	191	194	
DMR CHD	----	49	INT WOOD	----	76	PMRI	122	122	
DUCHSABAY		160	ISETAN	680	695	ROXY ELEC	106	107	
ELEC MAGN	244	239	J SHIPYARD	660	675	S BUS 500	530	545	
ESSOR CORP	334	354	JACKS LTD		145	S PRESS F	885		
EU YAU S.	250	252	JG CHT	134	135	S SHIP	500	498	
F A B C	39.5	40.5	JG-MPH	119	121	S WANG M	197	200	
F E SHIP	338	342	JOHAN HDG	47.5	48.5	SAMANDA	186	195	
FEN CORP	990	995	K G HDLGS		120	SANTO	128		
FEB CABLE	----	67	K KELLAS		155	SATERAS	59	55.5	
FED BHD		36	KAMUNTING	98	100	SHELL ORD	525	525	
FILINTA		370	KE SANG	111	113	SIA FORTH	1790	1770	
FLUOR		666	KECK SENG	208	209	SUPRECH C	----	178	



# Jordan orders two banks to merge

AMMAN, Aug 4. (Reuters): The Jordanian government yesterday used martial law to take over two commercial banks and order them to merge in an attempt to strengthen the banking system.

The National Economic Security Committee, using powers it has under martial law in force since 1967, installed temporary managers to Petra Bank and Jordan Gulf Bank and indefinitely suspended dealing in their shares on Amman's Stock Exchange.

"The intention is to strengthen the banking system in Jordan," Bassam Attari, the new government-appointed manager at Petra Bank told Reuters. "Further measures might be expected to reorganise small, inefficient institu-

tions."

Asked if Petra Bank had liquidity problems, he said, "it's nothing serious, just normal shortages any bank might have."

He said Central Bank or inter-bank safe and millions of dinars would be ready to meet demand when banks reopen tomorrow whole measure would raise confidence in the bank," he said.

The Iraqi-born chairman and general manager of Petra Bank, Ahmed Chalabi, is a member of the six-man supervisory committee named to implement the merger. The committee is headed by Walid Asfour, a businessman and former trade and industry minister.

Petra Bank was the target of a leaflet

alleging financial irregularities distributed in Amman in June by anonymous authors who claimed to be former employees at the bank. Attari said the forced merger had nothing to do with the leaflet.

"It is a serious policy of reorganising the financial system of the country," he said.

Jordan's national economy has been hit by recession and a rapid devaluation of the dinar. Rioters attacked banks and official buildings in April after the government began to implement an austerity programme agreed with the IMF.

Attari said the supervisory committee had orders to expedite the merger swiftly

and said he expected the new bank to open in a few months with a capital of not less than 10 million dinars (about \$11 million at market rates).

The former chairman and general manager of Jordan Gulf Bank, Hassan Abdul-Aziz, was once a senior executive at Petra Bank.

He and a group of associates bought a large stake in Jordan Gulf Bank in April. He denied reports at the time that the purchasing group was acting on behalf of Petra Bank.

Central Bank official Walid Khairallah was named as temporary manager of Jordan Gulf Bank.

A Central Bank statement said the merger of Petra Bank and Jordan Gulf

Bank was aimed at "maintaining monetary stability ... and rationalising credit policy in the banking system."

It said operating procedures and internal auditing systems would be modernised as part of the new bank's reorganisation.

Jordan has 16 commercial banks, including six foreign ones, serving a population of about three million people.

Banking sources say the Central Bank last month approved a request by the Jordan investment and finance corporation to become an investment bank and is considering a similar application from the Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan).

## Plans to boost joint venture projects

GENEVA, Aug 4. (KUNA): A delegation of the Swiss-Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry proposes to visit Iraq and Egypt in October to promote joint venture projects, according to Elias Attia, secretary general of the chamber.

In an interview with KUNA today, Attia said the Swiss-Arab chamber was keen to assist Iraq in its efforts to rebuild the economy. While the assistance was being aimed in several areas, the chamber was especially keen to promote joint-venture projects, he pointed out.

Though Iraq was going through a liquidity problem in terms of inadequate resources to finance projects, it would take only two to three years before it became as strong as it was before, the chief of the chamber felt. The country was rich in oil and agriculture, he added.

The re-integration of Egypt into the league of Arab states was a significant development for the Swiss-Arab chamber, Attia pointed out. "It is one of the biggest countries in the Arab world and with a population of 52 million, it has a high level of demand," he said.

In its forthcoming trip, the delegation of the Swiss-Arab chamber plans to establish close contacts with the Egyptian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and with the Ministry of Industry.

The delegation would also use the opportunity to identify some large scale projects for the Arab Co-operation Council made up of Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and the Yemen Arab Republic, Attia said.

## Saudi riyal little changed

NICOSIA, Aug 4. (Reuters): Saudi riyal interbank deposit rates were little changed in quiet trade with other markets in the Gulf closed for a holiday marking the Muslim New Year.

"It's really very quiet and directionless with rates if anything down on yesterday," a dealer said.

One-month was about 8-1/2-3/8 per cent and two-month 8-7/16-5/16, about the same as yesterday. Three-months was about 8-3/8-1/4, down about 1/16. Six-months was about 8-5/16-3/16, about 1/8 down, and one year was about 8-1/4-1/8, up about 1/8. The spot riyal was unchanged at around 3.7500/03 to the dollar.

## World Bank loan for India

NEW DELHI, Aug 4. (KUNA): India will receive \$6.7 billion assistance from the World Bank for 1989-90.

This was stated by Minister of State for Finance Eduardo Faleiro in parliament yesterday.

The terms and conditions of the loan would be determined after aid negotiations were finalised with each donor agency, the minister said.

He said the outstanding foreign debt was estimated to be Rs 688,310 million as on March 31, 1989. The external debt include loan on government account, non-government account, International Monetary Fund borrowing and external commercial borrowings.

The foreign exchange reserve of the country as on June 30, 1989 stood at Rs 60,750 million, excluding gold.

## New bank chief

MOSCOW, Aug 4. (Reuters): The Supreme Soviet, the upper house of parliament, yesterday approved the appointment of veteran financial expert Viktor Geraschenko as chairman of the State Bank (Gosbank).

Geraschenko, nominated to the post by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, was previously first deputy chairman of the Soviet Bank for Foreign Economic Relations (Vneshekonombank).

## Competitive industrial sector taking shape

# UAE making inroads

ABU DHABI, Aug 4. (OPEC-NA): Although the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has enough oil to sustain production at current levels well beyond the next century, a broad and competitive industrial sector is steadily taking shape.

The government's aim is to lessen dependence on oil and gas revenues, which still constitute the backbone of the national economy.

Located in the centre of the world's most prolific oil-producing region, the UAE is also becoming an increasingly important transit point between East and West, thanks to its modern airports, ports and other facilities.

Initially, government focus

was on exploiting the abundant and relatively cheap sources of energy in building oil and gas-related products, nearly half the capacity of its two refineries in Ruweis and Umm El Nar. Liquefied gas is widely used in fertiliser operations, fuelling the Abu Dhabi National Fertilisers Company's output of 275,000 tonnes of ammonia and 343,000 tonnes of urea, most of which is exported to India and China.

A study by the UAE Industrial Bank has predicted Abu Dhabi will become "one of the most important centres for petrochemical industries in the future," benefiting from the emirate's industrial zones in Ruweis, some 234 km west of here, and the offshore island of

Das.

According to the latest industrial survey conducted by the Ministry of Finance and Industry, there are over 500 industrial plants in the country worth \$2.2 billion, a 16-fold increase over the 1972-79 period. Together they generate some 10 per cent of the country's total revenues.

Of note, the aluminium smelter in Dubai achieved another production record in 1988 with total output of 163,000 tonnes of high-quality ingots.

The Industrial Bank, which was set up by the government in 1982 to encourage the private sector to upgrade its role in the economy, has so far extended more than \$44 million in 32 loans to private businesses, which are

supplying a growing proportion of the country's needs in textiles, furniture, foodstuffs and plastic goods.

The UAE and the United States have recently reached an agreement to regulate the flow of ready-made garments to American markets, which in 1987 were valued at nearly \$16 million.

In agriculture, the UAE is now a net exporter of seasonal fruits and vegetables to countries as far away as Britain.

Agricultural production has increased nearly five-fold over the past decade to reach around 500,000 tons annually. Excess seasonal produce is handled by canned food factories.

## Africa seeks major facelift

ADDIS ABABA, Aug 4. (Reuters): Africa, hit by sharp price falls for many of its vital farm and mineral exports, wants a radical overhaul of world commodity trade.

Changes would include a proposed price band to provide stable prices with guaranteed floors for the continent's main or strategic commodity exports, according to a report endorsed here last month at the summit of the Organisation of African Unity.

"Such a scheme should have built-in guaranteed price for each commodity as well as a trigger price mechanism which should be used to intervene in the market to regulate the price fluctuations of these commodities at any given point in time," it said.

The proposal was outlined in a 25-page memorandum drawn up by an OAU steering committee for submission to a United Nations group of experts set up to study Africa's commodity woes.

Headed by former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, the group was set up in May 1988 at the request of the OAU and held its first meeting last April.

It met again here shortly before African leaders adopted a report submitted by the OAU steering committee for closed-door summit discussion, which contained the commodities memorandum.

Food and beverages, such as coffee, cocoa and tea, bananas, fish and meat, account for 55 per cent of the volume of African exports and minerals and metals form 30 per cent.

Cash crops such as cotton, groundnuts, palm oil, tobacco, sugar, hard fibres, natural rubber and timber make up the rest.

Illustrating the reliance of individual countries on commodities, it noted that 19 obtain 80 per cent or more of their export income from the sale of three or less commodities.

Apart from unstable prices African countries had suffered from advances in the technology in the industrialised nations which had produced substitutes and synthetics which competed against exports such as sugar, oil seeds, grains and meat.

It also blamed "speculative and manipulative practices in the major commodity exchanges such as the London Metal Exchange, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the New York Commodity Exchange" for aggravating what it called the weak bargaining power of African marketing agencies.

Without naming any, it slammed so-called "transnational corporations" which it said were mainly based in Western Europe and North America.

It called for a global compensatory mechanism which it said should guarantee stable prices via compensation in foreign currency, not in local currency as is the case with Stabex.

## Moscow boosts consumer output Soviets to cut growth

MOSCOW, Aug 4. (Reuters): Soviet planning chief Yuri Maslyukov has promised a consumer boom in 1990 to overcome mounting popular discontent over shortages.

In a determined switch in the Soviet economy after decades of emphasis on heavy industry, Maslyukov called for a great leap forward in the production of television sets and other consumer goods to contain social unrest.

Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said 1990 will be vital for the success of his "perestroika" reform programme.

But, after seeing the draft figures presented by Maslyukov to the Supreme Soviet yesterday, Western economic experts said the target set by Maslyukov — which the planning chief said would be largely achieved by increasing home production and not through imports — seemed out of reach.

A specialist at one major embassy commented, "I cannot see how they can achieve such a breakthrough so fast."

Anger over the lack of even basic household goods and food items was one of the key elements in last month's miners' strikes across the country and lies behind much worker unrest in other industries.

Maslyukov said next year's plan would include an unprecedented 12 per cent increase in output of consumer goods.

"We must in 1990 perform a great leap forward in this area ... which will demand colossal reserves, organisation and discipline," said Maslyukov. The

new-style plan "will help remove the growth of social tension in our society," he added.

But the economic growth target would be only two per cent — the lowest annual pace since the system of five-year plans was introduced in 1928.

It was set at six per cent for 1989 but is lagging at only 3.5 per cent half-way through the year.

Maslyukov said next year's overall domestic trade turnover — a key indicator of the consumer market — was planned to grow three times faster than in the period from 1986-89 and reach 435 billion roubles (\$696 billion).

The planning chief said the consumer boom would be partly achieved through a cut of at least 30 per cent in government investment in heavy industry and by the conversion of many defence industry factories to produce popular products.

Leading Soviet financial experts say the country is in economic crisis and in his report Maslyukov said the 1990 plan — the last of the current five-year period — had "an emergency character."

The planning chief, also a non-voting member of the Communist Party's ruling Politburo, confirmed suggestions by Soviet economists that the current budget deficit was 120 billion roubles (\$192 billion).

This is 20 billion roubles (\$32 billion) more than had been earlier officially admitted and represents a figure of around 25 per cent of total planned government expenditure for 1989.

## Yugoslav inflation rockets to 790pc

BELGRADE, Aug 4. (Reuters): Yugoslavia's communist authorities suffered a blow today in their battle to rescue the economy when official data showed inflation soared to almost 790 per cent in July.

The Federal Bureau of Statistics said annual inflation rose by a monthly record of 136.4 per cent to 788.6 per cent compared with 652.2 per cent in June. In July 1988, inflation stood at 188.9 per cent.

The figures provided ammunition for critics of Prime Minister Ante Markovic, who took office in March and has come under increasing fire in parliament and in Yugoslavia's six republics for failing to protect living standards.

Markovic, a Croat, told the Communist Party's policy-making central committee last week that there was a plot to overthrow his government. He mentioned names but his loudest critics are Serbs, traditional rivals of the Croats.

Markovic's predecessor, Branko Mikulic, was toppled last December in a parliamentary revolt over his efforts to impose curbs on wages and prices. Markovic has resisted introducing government controls, saying firms must discipline themselves.

Yugoslavia is also burdened with at least 16 per cent unemployment, a foreign debt of about \$20 billion, low industrial productivity, labour unrest and a currency which loses value almost every day.

The dinar was quoted today at more than 22,500 to the dollar, compared with 17,200 a month ago and 2,700 a year ago. The government, which only recently issued a new 100,000-dinar bill, is planning now to introduce a one-million-dinar note.

The crisis has coincided with unrest in the southern province of Kosovo, where ethnic Albanian majority rioted in March and May after losing its autonomy to Serbia, the largest republic.

## US indicts 46 traders

### Futures probe

CHICAGO, Aug 4. (Reuters): A US federal grand jury yesterday indicted 46 commodity traders and brokers in the government's 2-1/2 year investigation into alleged fraud in Chicago's futures markets.

Attorney General Dick Thornburgh announced at a news conference that charges include racketeering, mail fraud, commodities fraud and the filing of false tax returns and lying to federal agents.

The charges follow an undercover investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of traders at the Chicago Board of Trade (CBT) and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), the world's two largest futures exchanges. The landmark investigation first came to light in January.

Futures contracts allow traders to buy and sell with a set price for future delivery.

The investigation centred on various trading malpractices at the exchanges that allegedly cheated customers and allowed traders to avoid paying taxes on profits.

FBI agents impersonated traders in several trading pits, including the soybean and US treasury bond trading pits at the CBT and the CME's Japanese yen, Swiss franc and Standard Poor's 500 futures pits.

Those charged were 19 traders from the soybean

pit, three in the bond pit, three in the Swiss franc pit and 21 in the yen pit.

Also present for the announcement were FBI director William Sessions, commodity futures trading commission chairman Wendy Gramm and US attorney Anton Valukas, whose office led the investigation.

Valukas said the federal investigation will continue beyond the current indictments.

"This is an ongoing investigation. It is not a concluded investigation. This is the first step in what we will be doing in connection with these matters," he said.

More than 100 traders were subpoenaed and appeared before a federal grand jury hearing evidence in the case.

According to published reports, as many as 20 traders have agreed to plead guilty to fraud charges and will testify for the government against their colleagues to avoid stiffer penalties and long, expensive trials.

Charges brought under the racketeer influenced and corrupt organisations act, or RICO, could damage the public's perception of the burgeoning futures industry by citing an entire pit as a criminal enterprise, industry sources said.

## Plessey rejects renewed bid by GEC and Siemens as too low

LONDON, Aug 4. (Reuters): British defence contractor Plessey, struggling to remain independent, yesterday rejected a final takeover bid by a powerful Anglo-German consortium valued at £2 billion (\$3.3 billion).

Electronic giants General Electric Company of Britain and Siemens AG of West Germany renewed their bid for Plessey Co. PLC, offering £2.70 (\$4.47) per share.

If successful, the takeover would create Europe's biggest electronics and defence group with interests ranging from radar to telecommunications and nuclear power plants.

"To have offered such a low price for Plessey after an attempt which has lasted almost nine months shows a total lack of understanding of Plessey and of its immediate long-term value to its shareholders," Plessey chairman Sir John Clark said in a statement.

Market sources said the consortium's bid vehicle GEC Siemens PLC bought

Plessey shares yesterday afternoon and now holds a total of 25 per cent.

Plessey's shares traded in the late afternoon at £2.67 (\$4.38) after touching an intraday high of £2.79 (\$4.58).

On Wednesday Britain's Department of Trade and Industry cleared the way for the revised offer after receiving assurances that British defence interests would not be compromised.

The renewed bid marked the latest foray in a lengthy battle in which at one point Plessey attempted to turn the tables against its unwanted suitors by forming an international consortium in an unsuccessful counter-bid for GEC.

"GEC and Siemens believe that Plessey on its own lacks the resources and capability to sustain, let alone improve, its profitability over more than the short term. The offer fully and fairly reflects Plessey's position and prospects," the joint GEC-Siemens statement said.

British defence officials had been con-

cerned that the deal would threaten competition among British military equipment suppliers but they, too, waived objections to the renewed bid.

GEC and Siemens launched their original bid worth £1.7 billion (\$2.8 billion) last November. But that offer lapsed when it was referred to Britain's Monopolies and Mergers Commission, a state watchdog agency.

The Anglo-German group proposed a modified bid in February and the commission cleared it conditionally two months later.

Both companies have negotiated with Britain's Ministry of Defence on how to divide up Plessey's defence contracting. If the bid succeeds, control of Plessey's divisions will be split between GEC and Siemens along specified lines.

According to the proposals, GEC will own 60 per cent of GEC Plessey Telecommunications PLC (GPT), a firm now

owned jointly by GEC and Plessey, with management control. Siemens will own the remaining 40 per cent.

GEC would wholly own Plessey's naval systems and avionics businesses. GEC's naval business is concentrated in torpedoes, while Plessey's is in sonar detection and control and intelligence systems.

Siemens would take over Plessey's businesses in radar and defence systems, including military communications and its related Australian defence activities.

Plessey's semiconductor business would be half owned each by GEC and Siemens, but Siemens would have management responsibility. Existing Plessey management would remain, the joint statement on Thursday said.

Plessey Electronics Systems Corp., formerly the Electronic Systems Division of Singer Co., would be 75 per cent owned by GEC and managed by it, while Siemens would have 25 per cent.



Alan Greenspan

US economy is slowing

## Jobless rate dips

WASHINGTON, Aug 4. (Agencies): The US employment rate fell one notch to 5.2 per cent in July as businesses added 169,000 new jobs despite the slowing economy, the government reported today.

The Labour Department said the growth was again found predominantly in the service-producing sector of the economy, which added 140,000 of the new jobs.

The civilian jobless rate declined from the 5.3 per cent reported for June. The government also revised its figures of new jobs created in June to 250,000, up from the 180,000 reported last month.

Today's report contained further evidence of persistent wage inflation.

The department said hourly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers increased 0.8 per cent in July — about twice the rate analysts had predicted — while average weekly earnings climbed by 1.7 per cent. The jump in hourly earnings followed two months of modest increases.

Goods-producing industries added 29,900 new positions as construction posted a gain of 35,000 jobs, helping to offset a decline of more than 10,000 jobs in the automobile industry.

Manufacturing posted a modest gain of 3,000 jobs last month after three months of decline, according to the Labour Department's survey of business establishments.

Last month's non-farm job growth was less than the 175,000 rise expected by economists, confirming that the economy is slowing after seven years of strong expansion.

Economists, split on whether the economy is easing into a soft landing or headed for a mild recession, said they would look closely at job creation in July for hints about the economy's direction.

The modest rise in new jobs created last month supports a scenario for slower growth, and could prompt the Federal Reserve Board to ease interest rates. June job growth, in contrast, was 250,000. The figure was revised sharply upwards from the previously reported level of 180,000.

A number of recent reports, including weak factory orders, falling construction spending, and the second straight decline in the government's key economic forecasting gauge, have pointed to a significant economic slowdown.

In an effort to boost growth, the Fed reversed its year-long inflation-fighting policy and began to lower interest rates in June. Chairman Alan Greenspan laid in July told Congress the Central Bank was shifting its focus to support growth and prevent a dangerous recession.

In all, 117.4 million Americans were at work in non-farm jobs last month, the government said.

The average work week for production and nonsupervisory employees in private industry increased by 0.3 hours, to 34.9 hours. The factory work week held steady at 41 hours and overtime in July averaged 3.9 hours a week, up from 3.8 hours in June, the Labour Department said.

The jump in hourly earnings brought average hourly pay in the private sector to \$9.70 on a seasonally adjusted basis, up from \$9.62 in June.

Weekly earnings rose to an average of \$338.53 from the June average of \$332.85.

The government said the summer expansion of the youth labour force in the past four months has totalled about 3.1 million, about the same as recent years despite a significant drop in the youth population.

The unemployment rate fell last month despite a dip in the number of Americans at work from 117.5 million to 117.4 million. The rate fell because the 169,000 new jobs were created in a month in which the civilian labour force — the number of people who have jobs or are looking for them — fell by 146,000.

The rebound in construction coincides with reports showing a upswing in housing starts and home sales.

## Lanka's expatriates' earnings total \$3.86m

### Labour market shrinking

COLOMBO, Aug 4. (KUNA): Sri Lanka's biggest foreign exchange earners this year will be its expatriates in the Middle East and elsewhere, a top government official has said.

Their earnings estimated to be about \$3.86 million will push into second place the income generated from the export of garments which will be in the region of \$3.31 million in the current year, Justin Dias, secretary to the Ministry of Labour and Employment said.

Several years now garments had topped the island's honey-spinner list outbeating earnings from the traditional exports of tea, rubber and coconut.

In West Asia alone more than 250,000 Sri Lankans are employed mainly in labour grades and as housemaids, statistics at the Foreign Employment Bureau have revealed.

But the bureau has complained that unregistered, pirate job agencies still operated fleecing foreign employment aspirants charging them enormous sums of "key money" to secure the jobs.

Labour and Employment Agency Minister Dr Ranjit Atapattu has said that the bureau approved many people seeking employment abroad but only a few were going.

The minister told a labour workshop recently held in Colombo to assist Sri Lankans working abroad that there was something wrong in recruitment and that the matter should be probed by the government.

"The foreign labour market is shrinking," the minister warned, "and the agents here are undercutting. It is the people who go that get a raw deal."

The deputy minister of Iran who was in Colombo recently had told him that there were 2000 Lankans in his country. They had gone there illegally.

Secretary Dias said in 1977 the bureau approved 136,000 persons but only fifteen per cent went abroad. The agents had got the approval but sent the people through other channels.

Dias disclosed there were 1,100 unregistered agents in the business, and for every single registered foreign employment recruiting agency, there were six unregistered agents, some of them operating from their homes.

He said housemaids and labourers sent almost 100 per cent of what they earned back to their families. This category of people should be helped.



EVENTS

This week on KTV 2

- SUNDAY**  
6.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
6.10 Care Bears cartoon  
6.30 Sea Hunt: "The Scavengers." Andy seeks Mike's help to find a lost treasure from a sunken Japanese ship.  
7.00 Architecture at the Crossroads: "Stop the Bulldozer." A look at protection and maintenance of buildings in such cities as Paris, London, Jeddah and America.  
8.00 News in English  
8.20 Maelstrom: "Out of the Depths." Catherine investigates the case of a woman who commits suicide.  
9.30 The Secret World: Wild Spirits, Devils and Demons.  
10.00 Kate and Allie: "Rear Window." Allie's son, Chip, feels dejected.  
10.30 Best Seller: "Robert Kennedy: His Life and Times." Part Two.  
11.30 News Summary; Magazine D'Actualite; Holy Quran/Closedown
- MONDAY**  
6.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial  
6.30 Scheme of Things: the development of paper industry; new energy sources and other topics.  
7.00 Roving Report: a weekly report of regional and world news.  
7.30 Charles-in-Charge: Charles makes plans for his trip to the States.  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Paradise: Paradise is a place where the services of a butler in a church raffle. Soon, their dream of a pampered life is shattered by the pain-in-the-neck hired help. Starring: Jackie.  
10.00 Tales of the Unexpected: "What Have You Been Up To Late." Two friends meet after 25 years and as they discuss their lives, a shocking announcement is made
- on the radio....  
10.30 Jack and Mike: "High Anxiety." Mike decides to adopt vagrants and finds himself involved with drug traffickers. Starring: Shelly Hawk and Tom Mason.  
11.45 News Summary; Magazine D'Actualite; Holy Quran/Closedown
- TUESDAY**  
6.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
6.10 Amigo and Friends: cartoon serial  
6.30 Captain Power: "New Order." Part One. Folio, a wicked empire, invades the US.  
7.00 Gone Fishing: "Tass-Beam."  
7.30 The New Adventure of Bean Baxter: "Beans in Ski-Hock." Beans finally locates his father and plans to set him free... Starring: Jonathan Ward as Beans and Eleanor Donahue.  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 A Different World: "Come Back Little Eggby." Starring: Lisa Bonet.  
9.10 Horizon: "Believe Me." A look at strange medical cases.  
10.00 Hoopernation: "Nightmare in Apartment 1." Action.  
10.30 L.A. Law: "Dummy Dearest." Disciplinary action is being taken against Kuzak, and one of the lawyers handles a civil case.  
12.00 News Summary; Magazine D'Actualite; Holy Quran/Closedown
- WEDNESDAY**  
6.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
6.10 The Real Ghostbusters: cartoon series  
6.30 The Butler: "The Butler." Mary and Rose win the services of a butler in a church raffle. Soon, their dream of a pampered life is shattered by the pain-in-the-neck hired help. Starring: Jackie.  
7.00 Danger Bay: "Love Game." Jonathan is attracted to a young tennis coach, Chris, while Nicole deals with financial problems. Christopher Crabb plays Jonah.  
7.30 Body Matters: "Forget Me Not." Memory and how the brain functions.  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Simon and Simon: "Zee and the Art of...". A Japanese girl hires the



A poster of 'The Real Ghostbusters' cartoon on KTV2 at 6.10 pm on Thursday.

- Simons to protect her brother, who is a top baseball player. Starring: Gerald McRaney, Jameson Parker.  
9.30 The Best of British: "Power and Prejudice." How the British movie-makers deal with social issues in films.  
10.00 Learning Ropes: "Requiem for the Maniac." Mark gives lessons on how to win a girl's heart, and Elaine wants to teach him a lesson.  
10.30 Movie Classics: "Across the Pacific." Starring: Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor. A taut, spy melodrama, directed by John Huston. Duration: 97 minutes.  
12.00 News Summary; Magazine D'Actualite; Holy Quran/Closedown
- THURSDAY**  
6.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
6.10 The Real Ghostbusters: cartoon series  
6.30 Take Hart: a new educational series for children.  
7.00 The Industrious Bees: a look at bee-keeping training schools.  
7.30 I and T: "Black and White." Jones becomes a problem for Mr Turner and Ms Taler.  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Beauty and the Beast: Starring Linda Hamilton, Ron Perlman.  
9.30 Paul Daniel's Magic Show  
10.30 Thursday's Feature Film: "No Man's Land." (1984). Starring: Stella Stevens, Sam Jones, Donna Dixon. Western farce starring Stevens as a sheriff, who, along with her three beautiful daughters, nabs desperados. Duration: 104 minutes.  
12.00 News Summary; Magazine D'Actualite; Holy Quran/Closedown
- FRIDAY**  
6.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
6.10 Silver Hawk: cartoon serial  
6.30 Inter Bang: Gianni and Bruno receive another message, along with a miniature of the Tower of Pisa.  
7.00 Walt Disney Movie: "Justin Morgan had a Horse." Mr Squire wants to take Morgan's horse.  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Summer '89  
9.00 Around the World: a look at current events in various fields.  
9.15 Miami Vice: "Heart of Night." The vice squad are involved in a kidnapping case. Starring: Don Johnson.  
10.00 Open All Hours: the grocer finds a new way of winning customers: he hires an attractive young girl. Comedy.  
10.30 Moonlighting: "Shirts and Skins."  
11.30 News Summary; Magazine D'Actualite; Holy Quran/Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

**Kuwait**  
Al Ghanem Pharmacy  
Fahd Al Salem Street, Near Carlton Hotel  
Ebin Rashid Pharmacy  
Souq Duaji, Kuwait Souq Building  
Hawalli and Nagra  
Al Andalus Pharmacy  
Hawalli, Tunis Street, Zaid Al Sarhan Building  
Salamiya and Rumalithiya  
Al Samah Pharmacy  
Salem Al Mubarak Street, Property of Mohammed Ameen Haji  
Fahabel and Ahmadi  
Al Wafa Pharmacy  
Fahabel, Al Dabooos Street, Hamad Al Khaleefa Al Hemaidi Building  
Jleeb Al Shoyoukh  
Palestine Pharmacy  
Main Street, Property of Moncer Obaid Al Rajhi Jabra  
Al Najah Pharmacy  
The Fourth Area, Plot No. 48, Bader Al Somait Company

KTV I weekly highlights

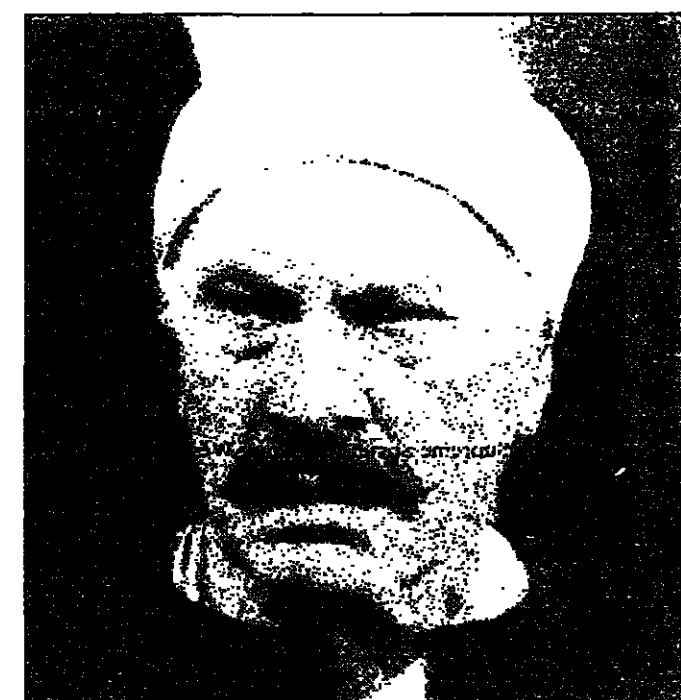


Dharmendra in Hindi film 'Dream Girl' on KTV1 at 4.00 on Friday.

- SUNDAY**  
9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
9.30 Cartoons  
12.15 That's Incredible  
2.15 New daily Arabic serial: Al Meharrath Wa Al Bour. Starring: Zuhair Al Noubani, Mohammad Abbadi.  
4.00 Arabic film: Al Dabbah. Starring: Farid Shawqi, Athar Al Hakim  
6.00 Stories from the Holy Quran: children programme  
7.45 Health Magazine  
8.15 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nabat
- MONDAY**  
9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
9.30 Ifah Ya Simsim  
12.35 Summer clubs  
4.00 Historical serial: Meerath Al Saneen  
7.45 Holy Quran and Science  
9.30 Local programme: Monday Evening  
11.00 Cultural programme: Ehtimalat
- TUESDAY**  
9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
9.30 Cartoons  
12.15 An interview with singer Abdul Halim Hafez  
4.00 Arabic play: Ayoun La Tara Al Hub  
7.00 Historical serial  
10.30 Arabic film: Khan Al Khalili. Starring: Sameera Ahmad, Enad Hamdi, Hassan Yousef.
- WEDNESDAY**  
9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
9.30 Ifah Ya Simsim  
11.15 Local serial: Naseeb. Starring: Abdulla Al Hubail  
4.00 Football match: Soviet Union vs Belgium: World Cup '86  
6.00 Children programme: One Thousand nights and One

- THURSDAY**  
9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
12.05 Japanese competition programme  
4.00 Local play: Al Herman (Part I)  
8.00 Folklore  
10.45 Arabic film: Min Arbab Al Sawabq
- FRIDAY**  
9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
9.15 Cartoons  
11.15 Friday prayers  
1.30 Local variety programme: Friday Meet  
4.00 Hindi film: Dream Girl, starring Dharmendra and Hema Malini  
10.00 Wrestling  
10.45 Variety programme: Kilma

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Farid Shawqi in 'Al Dabbah' on KTV1 at 4 pm on Sunday.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

**Kuwait Science Museum**  
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.  
**Islamic Arts Museum**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.  
**Tareq Rajab Museum**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.  
**Sadu House**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

SOCIAL

**Kalpak exhibition**  
SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian embassy hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those interested to show their own creation, please contact on telephone No: 5632708/4316737/562620.  
**Fit for life**  
LADIES' Keep Fit classes at La Palma Fitness Centre at the Kuwait International on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Free use of the pool after each session plus free use of the sauna on Tuesdays. Also judo, karate and taekwondo classes. Individual coaching for tennis and swimming available. Garden poolside barbecue every Friday afternoon. Recreation facilities include bowling, croquet and health club with a spa, steam bath and plunge pool. Telephone Paul or Viv: 2530000/8050.  
**Tiviv Centre**  
OC 26: Tiviv Centre's Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam Hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Ranks and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music. Lot of surprises await you. For further information contact the organisers.

Independents hall

AUGUST 17: At the Mesilla Beach Hotel from 8.30 pm onwards. Organised by Kuwait Independents Hockey. For tickets and details contact F. D'Mello (2421252) or S. Bajaj (2445825) after 7.30 pm.

Bangladesh Library

AUGUST 4, (Friday): A meeting of life-long/founder members of the Bangladesh Library will be held at 5 pm at the embassy premises to form a Library Committee. All life-long members are requested to attend the meeting.

Kapilka contest

AUGUST 18: Kapilka will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Showbiz Pizza place, Salamiya. This coincides with Arweng Mga Bata (Children's Day). For details contact: Jojo Medrano, AVP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosale Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 483447.

Konkani drama

AUG 11: A Konkani drama entitled "Battli Ani Bazaar," directed by Pascual Rodriguez will be held at the Indian Arts Circle, Finaitees at 10 am and 4 pm. Gatepasses are available at Raja Stores and Alex Martins Shop.

HOTELS

**At the Holiday Inn**  
At the Coffee Shop: A variety of Continental and Oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner at KD5.000 per pax and half price for children.  
**Al Andalus: Thursday** — Arabian Night. Savour the exotic food especially prepared for the night. Our local entertainers provide wonderful music.  
**Family branch: Friday** — A wholesome day for the children. Bring them along and enjoy entertainment which includes Walt Disney cartoon characters and magic by the great magician. Prizes and surprises await each kid. Price KD5.000 for adults, and half per kid.  
**At the swimming pool:** From 8.30 pm have a great night out by the pool to soothe the summer heat. Barbecue, music, games, prizes and surprises await each one. Bring your family and friends and savour our delicious shazrazad barbecue, at KD5.500 per pax and KD2.750 per child.

**At the Holiday Inn**  
At the Coffee Shop: A VARIETY of Continental and Oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner. Half price for children.

**Al Andalus**  
THURSDAY — Arabian Night. Savour the exotic food especially prepared for the night. Our local entertainers provide wonderful music.

**Family Branch**  
FRIDAY — a wholesome day for the children. Bring them along and enjoy entertainment which includes Walt Disney cartoon characters plus magic... magic, by the great magician. Prizes and surprises await each kid.

**At the swimming pool**  
FROM 8.30 pm have a great night out by the pool to soothe the summer heat. Barbecue — music — games — prizes and surprises await each one. Bring your family and friends and savour our delicious Shazrazad Barbecue.

**At Mesilla Beach**  
AL MUBARAKIYAH: The only 24-hour restaurant in Kuwait, offers a full spectrum of local and Continental specialties with daily buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner plus a la carte menu.

**Al Jawahara Super Night Club:** live entertainment by the resident "Rainbow" band with extensive a la carte menu on Wednesdays and special buffet on Thursdays.  
**Al Berdowneh beach garden restaurant** open daily — Sunday-Friday offering a variety of succulent charcoal grills, Lebanese mezzeh, freshly baked markouk bread and bubble bubble.

**At the Kuwait Plaza**  
TEMPTING lunch and dinner. A wide variety of all sorts of delicious, home-made and sumptuous dishes with real Lebanese mezzeh and delights of Arabic and French sweets plus fruits of the season.

A unique opportunity to try the dish you like most. It is indeed special lunch or dinner to suit everybody's taste, for only KD2.995.  
Also at Al Dallah coffee shop the breakfast with a difference KD0.995. American, Continental and Arabic breakfast. Enjoy our variety of food daily with Plaza special touch from 6.00 am till 11.00 am.  
Italian dinner: Let us take

you to heart of Rome while you are in the heart of Kuwait a special ambience with exotic delicious and Italian dishes prepared before you

Delights of Arabic ice-cream and jumbo sandwiches at Louwah corner "Le Cafe de Paris" with traditional Arabic music played by the famous oud player Fawazi Jamal. Unique surroundings on the edge of Al Muthanna shopping centre. Open all day long.

**At the Kuwait International**  
LA PALMA: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Ext 8166.

**Failaka: Rooftop restaurant** overlooking Kuwait's picturesque coastline. Offers international cuisine and elegant surroundings. Live entertainment during dinner. Closed on Friday. Ext 8012.

**Garden Pool:** Relax and enjoy our poolside barbecue event every Friday afternoon.

**La Patisserie:** Offers an extensive selection of pastries, oven fresh bread, savouries, exotic juices and ice creams. Also serves Continental breakfast. Pianist in the evenings. Ext. 8014.

**At the SAS Hotel**  
VISIT the Far East with SAS. Relish the wide variety of authentic Chinese delicacies served in a very elegant surrounding the Peacock Room. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 352.

Try some new Italian specialties served in a very cozy Italian setting — Bistretto at the SAS. We also serve a delicious selection of Continental and Arabic dishes. Open daily, breakfast lunch and dinner. We serve brunch every Friday.

Welcome on board Al Boom. Dine on our delicious mezzeh buffet. Dinner daily and lunch every Thursdays and Saturdays. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

**Clock at the SAS club.** The only drive-in restaurant in Kuwait offer wide varieties of fast food specialties.

**At the Hotel Pullman**  
At the Elysees Restaurant: Everyday, authentic French cuisine at the Pullman Hotel, Kuwait.

At the Salalah coffee shop: International and Arabic cuisine with live music nightly.

KTV 1

- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
9.30 Ifah Ya Simsim: children serial  
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite  
10.15 Daily Arabic serial: Mahlan Ayuha Al Omr  
11.15 Local serial: Ezazaj  
12.00 News in Brief  
12.15 Weekly Arabic serial: Min Ajel Ghadi  
1.00 News in Brief  
1.05 World Today via Satellite  
1.30 Sport Belly: children cartoon  
2.15 Daily Arabic serial: Hara Nesceha Al Zaman (last episode)  
3.15 Religious programme

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.43 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.30 pm
Maghreb	6.37
Isha	8.02

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

- 3.45 Cartoons  
4.00 English film: Fourteen Days in Hay  
6.30 The Little Artist: local programme  
7.00 Cultural programme  
8.30 Fi Nour Al Islam  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.45 New Daily Arabic serial: Al Mutasalliqoun. Starring: Laila Taher, Hamdi Ahmad  
10.30 Arabic play: Thamarat Al Ata. Starring: Sami Al Sarraj.  
12.00 News in Brief  
12.05 World Today via Satellite and Closedown.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
6.10 Poppies: new cartoon series for young viewers.  
6.30 Owl: tonight's episode examines the history

of the Arabian stallion; and doll-making.

7.00 The Wild World of Animals: "African Antelopes." A look at the antelope.  
7.30 Full House: "Cutting It Close." Stephanie, who wants to become a hairdresser, practices her craft on Uncle Jessie.  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Our House: "The Haunting."

9.30 Nuclear Age: "The Education of Robert McNamara." Tonight's episode examines the nuclear deterrent policy.

10.30 Late Night Movie: "A Gathering of Old Men." Starring: Richard Widmark.

12.00 News Summary; Magazine D'Actualite; Holy Quran/Closedown

CINEMA

- Al Andalus  
Red Scorpion  
Al Salamiya  
Revenge of the Nerds II  
Al Hamra  
Ultimate Force  
Drive-In  
Arabic film  
Al Firdous  
Ustad  
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Jaya Prada  
Fahabel Open-air  
Kahani Kismet Ki  
Al Fahabel  
Puravrutnam  
Al Jabra  
Low Blow  
Granada  
Disciples of Shaolin Master  
Al Sukailkhat  
Arabic film  
Al Jleeb  
Isabella  
Ahmadi Drive-in  
The Annihilators

Saakshi staged

A MALAYALAM play, Saakshi, was staged at the IAC on Friday to mark the Nehru Centenary. The programme was opened by Indian Charge d'Affaires R.S. Mukhija. The speakers were Abraham Varghese, Ummen V. Mangalassery, Jose Vakayar, Varghese Gee, P.V. Chacko, George Tharakan and M.C. Bose.

The social play, written by Varghese Paul, was directed by Jayan Pattathu and Shirley John. It revolved around a girl's love affair and her discovery that the man she loved is her own brother, her mother's illegitimate son.

Performers were Baby Thomas, C.C. Josekutty, Ninan Thangalathil, Emmanuel, Babychan, Mary Sebastian, Annamma Kurian, Shirley John and Shiny John.



A view of the audience



# Sinatra seeks royalties for singers

By Russell Kishi

MANY people believe performers receive royalties each time one of their songs airs on the radio or is played on the jukebox, but in fact, they receive no such compensation. Frank Sinatra is out to change all that.

Sinatra has agreed to spearhead a lobbying effort that would correct what his lawyer describes as a longstanding tradition of neglect.

The newly founded Performers Rights Society of America will seek support from performers and recording companies who agree a performance royalty should be paid to singers and musicians, in addition to royalties already paid to songwriters and music publishers.

"I think we recognize as a society that there exists a common right to the fruits of your labours," said attorney Robert Finkelstein, who is working with Sinatra.

"And this is really an anomaly in our society, or in our law, that performers have not shared in the payment of royalties. It is really a question of equity and justice and fairness."

Davis still Miles ahead of the rest

# Keeping pace with changing fashions

By Martin Gayford

MILES DAVIS, the celebrated trumpeter, is one of the few true stars that the world of jazz has ever produced.

Generally speaking, jazz musicians, even the very greatest, spend their working lives in bars, restaurants and smoky little clubs — places collectively known as joints. Only one or two from each generation — Louis Armstrong, Nat King Cole, Fats Waller — achieve the sort of widespread fame that leads to hit records, vast concert halls and colossal fees. Such success usually involves some concessions.

In Davis' case, however, these have not taken the usual form. Most of the others — Armstrong having led the way — tend to package an easily-accessible version of their talents, and then stick with it for evermore. Davis, on the other hand, has changed drastically over the years, and in doing so has left many old admirers wheezing in the rear.

In fact, through these very changes, he has succeeded not just in renewing his audience with each generation, but in increasing it. So that now, at 63, he is more widely popular than at any point in his career; and the bulk of the throngs who attend his concerts and buy his albums are probably under 35.

Terse

In fact there have been a number of incarnations of Miles Davis since he left St Louis for New York in 1944. First, there was the shy 19-year-old youth with a faltering trumpet technique but an extraordinary tone who was talent-spotted by Charlie Parker.

Then there was the Miles who bobbed up in the mid-Fifties, mesmerically poised and elegant, driving a white Ferrari and leading one of the most stylishly original jazz groups ever assembled.

By this time his own terse, introspective playing possessed unforgettable emotional authority, and

There have been a number of incarnations of Miles Davis since he left St Louis for New York in 1944. But through all these changes, he has retained the melancholy, sultry essence of his musical personality. Unfortunately, the electronic world he now inhabits cannot provide the sheer excitement of his groups of 30 years ago.

he had also developed a knack of putting himself in the perfect setting: either his own brilliant quintet and sextet — which contained such musicians as the saxophonist John Coltrane and the incomparably crisp drummer, Philly Joe Jones — or large misty ensembles organised by the arranger Gil Evans. This was the Miles Davis who made records, like *Kind of Blue* and *Miles Ahead* which, I believe, will still be played in 100 years time.

The Sixties, a decade not hip but hippy, were a thin time for jazz in general and Miles Davis in particular. Record sales fell and audiences dwindled; but in 1969 Davis counter-attacked with the

pioneer jazz-rock album, *Bitches Brew*, and a brand new wardrobe.

In place of the sharp Italian suits of the Fifties, he now wore skin-tight trousers and the brightest of pied-piper gear — just like a pop star. And it was the new rock generation that his music now largely attracted; indeed, for many people now under 40, Miles Davis albums like *Bitches Brew* were their first introduction to jazz.

In the Eighties he has continued to appeal unashamedly and with great success to the youth market. He has explored disco rhythms, played against backings concocted on a synthesiser, and recorded with the pop group Scritti Politti.

Through all these changes Davis has retained the melancholy, sultry essence of his musical personality; but the electronic world he now inhabits cannot provide, isn't intended to provide, the crackle, the needle-point precision, the sheer excitement of his groups of 30 years ago.

I can't help hoping that one day he'll decide to play again with a straight-ahead acoustic jazz band. Both because very few musicians have ever done that as well as he once did, and also, it's got to be said, because it would sound so much better than what he's doing now.



Miles Davis: has succeeded not just in renewing his audience, but in increasing it.

Prince still rules

# Jive Bunny swings to No. 1

NEW YORK. (AP) Prince kept his *Balducci* at the top of the pop singles record charts in the United States for the second straight week Wednesday.

Bobby Brown's *Our Own* moved up three notches to second position on the Cash Box Magazine chart, and *If You Don't Know Me By Now* by Simply Red slipped from step number two to third place.

The week's newcomers included Dino's *I Like It*, which jumped from 11th to 7th, and Richard Marx's *Right Here Waiting* made it to 8th position from last week's 12th.

As for the country and western singles, Billy Joe Royal took over the top of the Cash Box Magazine chart with *Love Has No Right*. Dolly Parton's *Wh'ed You Come In Here Lookin' Like That* was second and Sunday in the South by Shenandoah was third.

US Top Ten

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box Magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) *Balducci* — Prince (Paisley Park-Warner Brothers).  
2. (5) *On Our Own* — Bobby Brown (MCA).  
3. (2) *If You Don't Know Me By Now* — Simply Red (Elektra).  
4. (7) *So Alive* — Love and Rockets (RCA).  
5. (6) *Lay Your Hands On Me* — Bon Jovi (Mercury-Polygram).  
6. (3) *Express Yourself* — Madonna (Sire-Warner Brothers).  
7. (11) *I Like It* — Dino (Island Records).  
8. (12) *Right Here Waiting* — Richard Marx (EMI).  
9. (4) *Tot Soldiers* — Martika (Columbia).  
10. (8) *What You Don't Know* — Exposé (Arista).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box Magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (3) *Love Has No Right* — Billy Joe Royal (Atlantic America).  
2. (1) *Why'd You Come In Here Lookin' Like That* — Dolly Parton (Columbia).  
3. (5) *Sunday in the South* — Shenandoah (Columbia).  
4. (7) *Timber I'm Falling In Love* — Patty Loveless (MCA).  
5. (2) *Houston Solution* — Ronnie Milsap (RCA).  
6. (4) *Cathy's Clown* — Reba McEntire (MCA).  
7. (10) *Are You Ever Gonna Love Me* — Holly Dunn (Warner Brothers).  
8. (6) *What's Going On In Your World* — George Strait (MCA).  
9. (13) *Never Giving Up On Love* — Michael Martin Murphy (Warner Brothers).  
10. (8) *She's Got A Single Thing In Mind* — Conway Twitty (MCA).

In London, Jive Bunny and the Mastermixers hit the top of the British pop chart Wednesday with their new single *Swing The Mood*. Kylie Minogue, the darling of the Australian soaps, broke in at No. 3 with *I Wouldn't Change A Thing*.

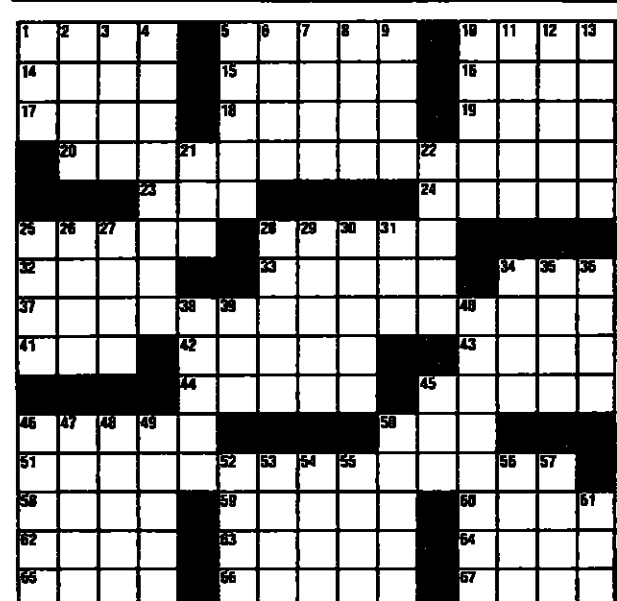
The rest of the chart was a reshuffle of last week's top 10, with Lil Louis thrusting into second position with *French Kiss*.

UK Top Ten

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd., the national musical retail chain, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (2) *Swing The Mood* — Jive Bunny and the Mastermixers (Music Factory).  
2. (8) *French Kiss* — Lil Louis (London).  
3. (1) *I Wouldn't Change A Thing* — Kylie Minogue (PWL).  
4. (1) *Too Much* — Bros (CBS).  
5. (3) *You'll Never Stop Me Loving You* — Sonia (Chrysalis).  
6. (4) *On Our Own* — Bobby Brown (MCA).  
7. (5) *Ain't Nobody* — Rufus and Chaka Khan (Warner Brothers).  
8. (10) *Don't Wanna Lose You* — Gloria Estefan (Epic).  
9. (6) *Back To Life* — Soul II Soul-Caron Wheeler (10 Records).  
10. (7) *London Nights* — London Boys (Teldec-WEA).

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS  
1 Outlaws  
5 Bring up  
10 Marina sight  
14 Beasts of burden  
15 Play backer  
16 One opposed  
17 Nil  
18 Footwear  
19 Hidden obstacle  
20 Disheartened  
23 Flop  
24 Small bay  
25 Not together  
28 Sources of energy  
32 As written, in music  
33 Domesticated  
34 Electrical unit  
37 Careless misstatement  
41 Like King Cole  
42 Mythological hunter  
43 Goes astray  
44 Medieval war clubs  
45 Music for two  
46 Part of a sando  
50 California's Big  
51 Part of a vengeful phrase  
58 Therefore  
59 Hippodrome  
60 Sightseers' trip  
62 Prayer ending  
63 Consumer advocate Ralph  
64 Arctic shelter  
65 Dole out  
66 Shines  
67 Tranquil

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

DOWN  
1 Dickens' pen name  
2 Chopped down  
3 Roman emperor  
4 Early blooming

## GOVERN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
BEWARE OF GIFTS TO TROY!

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

7  
5 4 3  
A 9 8 7 5 4 2  
10 8

WEST

4 2  
Q J 10 7 2  
K 6  
K 9 5

EAST

Q 9 8 6 5 3  
K 8  
3  
J 7 4 3

SOUTH

A K 10  
A 9 6  
Q J 10  
A Q 6 2

The bidding:

South West North East  
1 1 1 1  
2 1 2 2  
3 NT 3 NT 3 NT 3 NT

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

We are not proud of South's bidding on this hand from a rubber bridge game at New York's renowned Cavendish Club. Fortunately, South had the skill and some help from the enemy to land his contract.

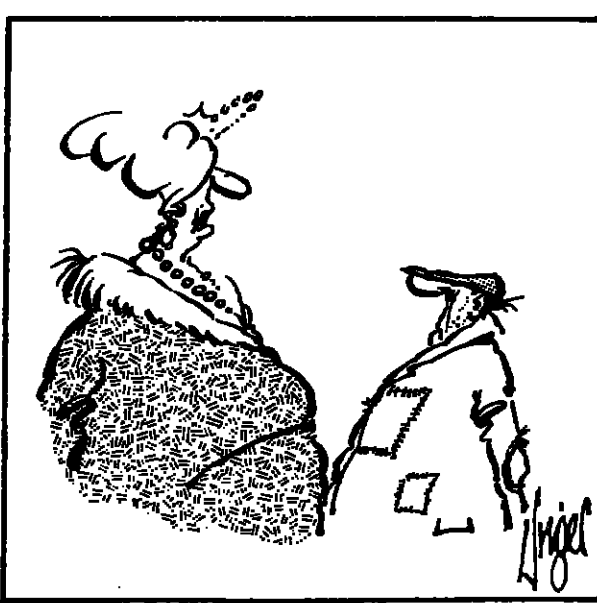
Since North could not bid over one heart, his jump in response to his partner's takeout double showed little more than length in the bid suit. Under the circumstances, South would have been wiser to select the minor-suit game. Indeed,

six diamonds could be made on several different lines, depending on what the defenders chose as their opening lead.

Against three no trump West led the top of his heart sequence. East covered with his king and returned the eight after declarer allowed the defenders to win the first trick. Since there was no need for a second holdup, declarer took his ace. It might seem that declarer needed only the diamond finesse, but note the spots—after the ace captures the king, the suit is blocked.

At the third trick declarer led a crafty jack of diamonds. Actually, he hoped the finesse would lose, for then he could get to dummy by overtaking the third diamond. West could have blocked the suit by covering with the king, but he was afraid, not unreasonably, his partner might have the bare queen. The jack won and now declarer had to resolve the diamond blockage.

He found a pretty play—he exited with a heart! West made a fatal error; he started to cash his heart winners. Declarer quickly shed the offending ten of diamonds. After West took his last heart, declarer was able to win any return, pick up the king of diamonds by leading the queen, and run his long cards in the suit for the rest of the tricks.



"Let's face it, Edgar, we're growing apart."

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

<p><b>Aries</b> (March 20 - April 18)</p> <p>Do not be quite so ready to jump to conclusions. You will be able to find a better way of dealing with a routine matter. There is a need to exercise a little more frugality. Be sincere.</p>	<p><b>Cancer</b> (June 21 - July 21)</p> <p>Now is the time to tidy up and to discard things you do not really need. However think twice before deciding what to throw out. Take the best possible care of your health. Be magnanimous.</p>	<p><b>Libra</b> (Sept 22 - Oct 22)</p> <p>If you say what you do not mean others will quickly find you out, so don't. Show a little more goodwill towards others, even if they do not seem to towards you. You will be able to compensate for a disappointment in one direction. Be objective.</p>	<p><b>Capricorn</b> (Dec 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>You are rather too liable to do things on the spur of the moment. If you think you know all the answers, for that reason alone you do not. Your lucky numbers are 1 and 20. Avoid being side-tracked. Be resolute.</p>
<p><b>Taurus</b> (April 19 - May 19)</p> <p>Nothing is quite as you would like it to be but you will be able to see some bright gaps all the same. Do not allow yourself to be overawed by the difficulties. Make sure your partner does not feel discontented. Be less talkative.</p>	<p><b>Leo</b> (July 22 - Aug 21)</p> <p>You should leave yourself with an alternative enough room for manoeuvre. There is no need to lose faith or confidence in yourself. Make sure you do not strain your eyes. Be generous.</p>	<p><b>Scorpio</b> (Oct 23 - Nov 21)</p> <p>You are liable to lose sight of your principal objectives and should spend a little while reviewing what you are doing. Avoid being too sedentary but do not exercise to the point of exhaustion. And watch your weight. Be patient.</p>	<p><b>Aquarius</b> (Jan 20 - Feb 18)</p> <p>Try not to confuse what is with what is not important. If you give too much that is better than if you give too little. Something that has been giving you difficulties will now become easier. Be less impatient.</p>
<p><b>Gemini</b> (May 20 - June 20)</p> <p>Avoid spending more than you should on luxuries. However do not try to skip on essentials. You should do your best not to be wasteful. Be observant.</p>	<p><b>Virgo</b> (Aug 22 - Sept 21)</p> <p>You should avoid allowing yourself to be deceived by appearances. Do not hesitate to take advice on a problem that is somewhat beyond you. Avoid getting into an argument and do mend your fences. Be tolerant.</p>	<p><b>Sagittarius</b> (Nov 22 - Dec 21)</p> <p>You are liable to take umbrage a little too quickly and easily and should control yourself. Remember that being too thin is little better than being too fat. Try to avoid getting into bad habits. Be fair.</p>	<p><b>Pisces</b> (Feb 19 - March 19)</p> <p>You will have a bright idea but you should not rely entirely on your assessment of it. You will encounter more obstacles than you had first allowed for, but none of them will be insuperable. Put your family before yourself. Be sensible.</p>



## How I was murdered — by Marilyn Monroe

# Beautiful, insecure and still a mystery

By Frank Durham

CHILLINGLY dramatic scenes of screen goddess Marilyn Monroe fighting and screaming for her life were described during an amazing seance held at the actress's Hollywood grave.

A medium, saying she was receiving a series of "still pictures" from Marilyn, described how two men held her down on her bed and gave her a lethal injection.

After analysing the tape of the graveside seance held by top medium Debra Senate, Milo announced: "This is all pretty accurate information."

And, as Marilyn Monroe's "last picture show" unfolded, 51-year-old Milo put names to the faces and motives to their actions.

But the private eye, who has written three books on Marilyn's "murder", stressed that the plot of the psychic story did not necessarily agree with his own incredible version of Marilyn's last hours. A big budget movie is being made of this.

Even Milo hadn't heard of some of the dramatic information that came pouring out from beyond the grave.

Debra, aged 28, who has held similar seances at Rudolf Valentino's home and aboard the Queen Mary, stood beside the flower-bedecked tomb as the sun was setting over Westwood Memorial Park.

Marilyn's pink marble grave was smeared with lipstick "kisses" from fans making sentimental pilgrimages.

Then the last, sad story of Marilyn, found naked in bed at her home after officially taking an overdose of barbiturate tablets, began to run as a series of vivid scenes.

Debra, who says she has never taken an interest in Marilyn's story and always believed she committed suicide, began: "Although Marilyn had a maid — an older woman — she opened the door herself to these two men."

"She knew them both. One was a doctor, and she wasn't surprised to see him. But she hadn't expected the younger man, asked him why he was there."

Milo explained that the doctor could have been Marilyn's psychiatrist, Dr. Ralph Greenson, and the other man Bobby Kennedy, then the Attorney General. Milo said: "It has been said that the President, John F. Kennedy, had first been romantically involved with Marilyn. He then passed her on to his brother."

Debra went on: "I'm not getting upset. Marilyn wasn't depressed. Things were starting to look up for her. I get murder. I see them in Marilyn's bedroom now."

**Murdered**  
"She is being murdered at the hands of these two men. She is not naked. She is wearing something like a long, powder-blue T-shirt and is nude underneath it. The doctor is holding her by the shoulders and the other man by the legs... the thighs."

"I can see her stretched out and fighting. Marilyn is yelling and is surprised because there is nobody in the house to come and help her."

"She feels totally lost. She knows she isn't going to live through what is going on. Marilyn is very shocked and feels betrayed because she had great trust in these men."

"She is struggling, shouting and thrashing her head from side to side. Now the doctor's hand is cupping her mouth. I can see the bedroom. She has kicked off her slippers, which are sprayed by the side of the bed. They are fluffy and pink and white."

Debra paused, peering into the violent past, then went on: "The shades are drawn across the window, and Marilyn's bed abuts it. It has a headboard. There is a night-stand to the left of the bed with a telephone on it."

"Now, suddenly, Marilyn has stopped struggling. Instantly. It is as though she has given a sigh and gone to sleep. That's it. "Now I'm getting a



Marilyn Monroe: "In Hollywood, they'll pay you a thousand dollars for a kiss and fifty cents for your soul"

picture of a bruise on her upper, inner thigh. It is about the size of a dime. For some reason, Marilyn thinks this is significant. It could be the mark of an injection."

Milo has never believed that Marilyn died after taking 47 Nembutal tablets on August 5, 1962. He said: "The autopsy showed a high level of drugs in the blood and no evidence of pills in the stomach. I believe in the theory that Marilyn was killed by injection."

"A bruise did exist, but it was on her hip. And Marilyn did frequently wear a powder blue Terry cloth bathrobe. The medium describes the bedroom rather well. The characters she says were holding Marilyn down sound to me as though they were probably like her psychiatrist, Dr. Ralph Greenson and Bobby Kennedy."

"I did hear an actual tape recording of this type of scene. Marilyn's house had been bugged by Teamsters' union chief Jimmy Hoffa, who was trying to gather embarrassing information on Bobby Kennedy. Bobby considered that Hoffa was a gangster, and wanted to put him out of business."

"At one point you do hear Marilyn yelling and screaming as if people are



Robert Kennedy: did he drop in just before Marilyn died?

holding her down. The bug was installed by an expert wire-tapper called Bernard Spindel, who was later arrested over another matter. His tapes were confiscated. But I know several copies had been made."

"Spindel filed a law suit in New York, asking for his tape back and saying that it proved Marilyn Monroe was murdered. But, according to the District Attorney's office, that tape never existed. But at least one other person has a copy of it."

Debra took up her story again, as the shadows lengthened in the cemetery. Nearby, movie-goers lined up eagerly in the bustling area's dozens of cinemas. She said: "Now the young guy is totally surprised at what has happened and is panicky. He is surprised that Marilyn has died."

"I really don't think he meant to kill her. He just meant to shut her up. He killed her by accident."

"I get fear and anger from him. It's like he didn't know what was happening. The younger man leaves and the doctor stays. He doesn't seem surprised at the turn of events. He knew what was in that injection but he doesn't seem upset."

"The doctor is stripping her nude... it's bizarre. Now another guy has arrived, a middle-aged man, and he is yelling at the doctor. This man doesn't even look at Marilyn. It is as if he knows what has been done."

**Search**

"His sole purpose is to search the house, and he seems to know that he has plenty of time to do this."

"I can see this man going through Marilyn's dresser bureau. As he goes through the drawers, the doctor is shouting at him not to disturb anything. He leaves about 15 minutes before the police arrive."

"Why did Marilyn die? She knew something somebody wanted to keep quiet. Somebody wanted to shut her up."

Milo commented: "We know from several eye-witnesses who were playing poker in the house next-door to Marilyn's on the night of her death that Bobby Kennedy arrived at 5 pm. He was accompanied by a man des-

cribed as carrying a medical bag."

"Now, I can look at some probabilities here. I'm not saying this myself — just trying to analyse the medium's information. It's possible that Bobby may have been at the house to set things up, and a hit man came through and did the job."

Marilyn knew many Government secrets, including the CIA — Mafia connection to kill Cuban dictator Fidel Castro. "Milo also has a shrewd idea of why the mystery third man would be searching the movie star's house."

Back in 1982, Milo offered a reward of \$150,000 for the return of Marilyn's



Marilyn Monroe's rumpled deathbed.

Detective Milo Sperilio has never believed that Marilyn Monroe died after taking 47 Nembutal tablets on August 5, 1962. A medium leading a seance at the actress's Hollywood grave said she received a series of "still pictures" from Marilyn, describing how two men held her down on her bed and gave her a lethal injection.

missing red diary. In his book, Marilyn Monroe: Murder Cover-Up, Milo said: "I first heard of the diary when my client Bob Slatzer, who was briefly married to Marilyn, told me that she had shown it to him not long before her death."

"The last person to read it was the deputy coroner's aide, Lionel Grandison, who signed her death certificate under 'duress' and verified the contents as described by Slatzer."

"If Marilyn had told all, as she threatened to do at her news conference scheduled for the Monday following her demise, all hell would have broken loose. The top secret information to which she was apparently privy could have caused an international scandal more devastating than Watergate. The history of the world may have been changed."

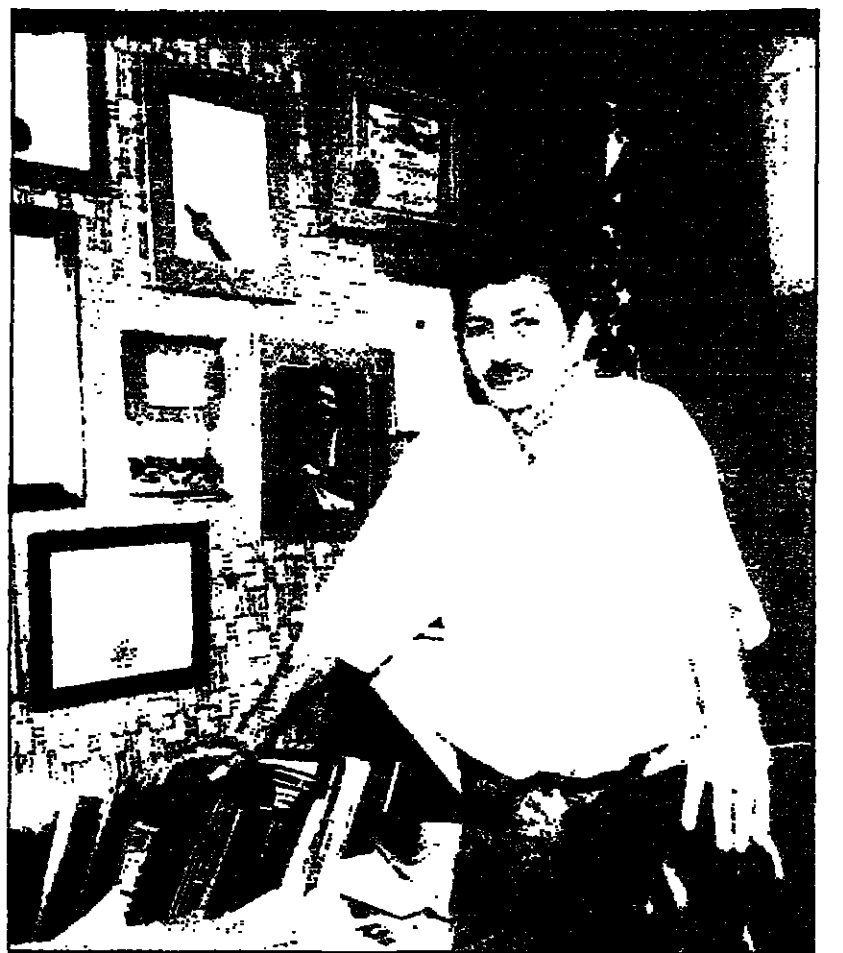
"The diary made references to Jack and Bobby Kennedy's intimate relationship with Marilyn, her knowledge of the Bay of Pigs in detail (where an abortive attempt was made to invade Cuba), and of the CIA plan to use gangsters to assassinate the President of Cuba, Fidel Castro."

"Marilyn's diary is an important link in establishing why she was murdered. More important are the clandestine tape recordings made in the Monroe home the night she died."

Milo says the diary he sought never came to light.

Back to Debra and her "last picture show". She said: "I am getting flashes of a beach and a pier. The pier is north of Santa Monica and has a motel opposite, with bungalows."

The medium was exactly describing the pier in the stars' seaside paradise of Malibu. She went on: "This is at least a



Private investigator Milo Sperilio in his Hollywood office. His most cherished photograph of Marilyn, when she was Norma Jean, is in the place of honour above his desk.

month before her murder. Marilyn has a big, white dog with her. She is having a heated argument with a man she has been with for two days."

"He is slapping her across the face and telling her to shut up. The man is wearing dark glasses and his hair is short and brushed forward. He seems really familiar to me... a public figure. He is the older brother of the young man in the house."

**Mad**

"The argument is over a child she hasn't borne yet. She is pregnant. There is a big argument because she wants to keep the baby and this guy refuses to let her."

"He is married and she is mad and

upset. They have had a romantic relationship. Marilyn wanted more out of this but he wanted to leave."

The pictures flashing across Debra's mind flickered and faded...

Milo said he had no knowledge of such a beach scene. But he added: "We know that Marilyn had an abortion approximately two months before her death. Marilyn really wanted the baby. She'd had so many abortions and miscarriages."

"She was officially checked into the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles, for a different medical reason. After leaving hospital, she told a reporter that she didn't know if it was Jack's kid or Bobby's."

"So, apparently, she was sleeping with both of them at about the same time. The medium said Bobby was appalled at Marilyn's death. And I don't actually believe that Bobby Kennedy wanted to see her dead."

"The man on the pier could have been either President Kennedy or the Kennedy's brother-in-law, actor Peter Lawford. But I can't really see Lawford hitting Marilyn."

"Yes, she had a white dog. It was called Mafia, later shortened to Maff. It was given to her by Frank Sinatra. I am only placing these people according to the tape. I am not placing them there myself."

"I have found nothing in what this lady said that would indicate that it all could not have happened. Since she was not paid, I see no motivation to lie."

"If I had to judge the tape on its own merits, I would say that it is pretty accurate information."

Now not only Marilyn Monroe but all the main characters in her psychic drama are dead... the Kennedy brothers, Dr. Greenson, even Spindel the phone-tapper. So how does Marilyn Monroe feel about the whole affair today?

Debra said simply: "She is angry at herself. For trusting people she shouldn't have. She is very upset that people she thought really loved her, betrayed her. She feels really bad because she made a bad judgement."

It was a sad epitaph, spoken as darkness fell across the town that made and then helped to break one of the greatest screen idols of our time.

## Stevie Wonder impressed by Lissa's talent

# Musical escape from the dark

By Marina Shamoon

BLIND seven-year-old Lissa Hermans did not show any first-night nerves even though the man she was meeting was superstar Stevie Wonder.

Little Stevie, little Lissa is exceptionally gifted musically. Although blind and showing some signs of autism, she plays keyboards and mimics professionals by singing along the music tapes.

The blind star met Lissa in his dressing-room shortly before he was due to perform in front of 8,000 fans at Wembley Arena, London.

Stevie presented Lissa with a keyboard donated by an organisation called Chicken Shed and the pair started playing together.

Lissa's mother Jane watched proudly as her daughter matched Stevie note-for-note.

Jane, who has brought up Lissa single-handed, is extremely patient with the child who has problems communicating except through music.

Speaking at her flat in Enfield, Middlesex, Jane told me: "Lissa didn't know who Stevie Wonder was. When we met him, Lissa suddenly turned to me and said, 'I don't like Stevie Wonder.' But I think it was in the heat of the moment. He was just amused."

"But as soon as Stevie went to his keyboard and started playing, she was drawn to him. She joined in and he showed her how to play a few melodies and introduced her to different chords. They continued to play together for about 10 minutes."

"Within minutes they were like old buddies. They were communicating spiritually as well as musically. At one

point, Lissa pushed Stevie's hands off the keyboard and he laughed and let her carry on playing."

"There was a lump in my throat because I could see that Lissa was totally happy and absorbed in what she was doing. A look of sheer pleasure came across her face."

"When they had finished, Lissa gave Stevie a kiss and he gave her his own keyboard too. We went on to enjoy the show."

Jane savoured every moment, for she is a Stevie Wonder fan and grew up with his music. Now their paths may cross again because Stevie has taken an interest in Lissa's progress.

Jane, 35, said: "I wrote Stevie a letter thanking him for his kindness. His record company told me he had asked to be kept in touch with how Lissa was coming on. He said he was touched by what had happened."

"I certainly felt the same because we live our life very much day-to-day. Stevie is a sensitive man and he impressed me very much. He seemed to understand how to handle Lissa."

Jane says musicians seem to get excited when they meet Lissa. They can see how talented she is.

It is understandable. For when Lissa

puts on a tape of her favourite musical Mack and Mabel, a broad smile comes across her face and she starts swaying to the sound. She knows exactly when to come in.

She has perfect pitch and mimics the voice of the singers. She sings with feeling as if she understands every word of the story — but she does not. Her mother has taught her by repetition.

**Blind**

Lissa was born blind in October 1981. She was six weeks old when her mother realised she might be blind because she kept rolling her eyes.

On Christmas Eve, Lissa was taken to see a paediatrician who diagnosed optic-nerve hypoplasia (undeveloped optic nerve).

Jane and Lissa's father Jeff reacted to the situation in different ways. Jane coped but Jeff could not handle it and left six months after Lissa was born. Jane was not surprised. She said: "I think we would have separated anyway. One in 10,000 children suffers from this condition but most have normal intelligence. There are degrees of abnormality and Lissa suffers from a severe form of it."

"As she grew, Lissa began to withdraw to her own little world. I constantly talked to bring her out and cuddled her to

reassure her. I always say, 'Would you like to go ...' swimming or visiting friends, for example."

Looking after Lissa became a full time job and Jane had to give up being a secretary. It was hard work physically because Jane was on her own. Lissa would often wake up in the middle of the night and not be able to go back to sleep again.

At the age of three, Lissa went to a nursery school, the Joseph Clark School which looks after children with varying degrees of visual handicap.

"We have our ups and downs and even now I get very sad because Lissa can't really communicate and she can't see. I'm lucky in that my family are very supportive. They all banded together and bought me a car."

"Lissa is bonded to me. I'm her lifeline. I am more than a mother to her. I think for her, I anticipate her needs. I cuddle her often to soothe her. I talk though she doesn't understand but I realised early on that I had to do that so that she can remember words."

"My family have become familiar to her because we visit them often. They all talk to Lissa and tell her what a beautiful girl she is."

"Lissa is not like other blind children

because she is not inquisitive. She doesn't ask any questions. But she is making progress. During pregnancy, not only the optic nerve was underdeveloped but the pituitary gland and thyroid gland which are vital to life."

So Jane has to give her daughter growth hormone and hydrocortisone. Lissa has a blood test every year. The growth hormone has to be injected into the thigh muscle and at first Jane found it unbearable to do. Lissa has to wear a special bracelet to say that she takes special drugs. If she was involved in an accident, she could die through shock."

Along with this handicap, Lissa is an awkward eater too. She only eats weetabix, wholemeal toast and white toast, crisps, rusks and rich tea biscuits. "I never try to force food on her," says Jane. "She has vitamin supplement pills and is given growth hormone. I'm very patient with her. I never shout at her — she hates that."

"She can't make friends easily but there is lots of love coming her way and it cushions her. She still goes to Joseph Clark School in Chingford, East London. They have been superb with her."

"They have noticed that she does have a talent for music and they say it is above that of any other child."



Lissa plays the keyboard given to her by Stevie Wonder.



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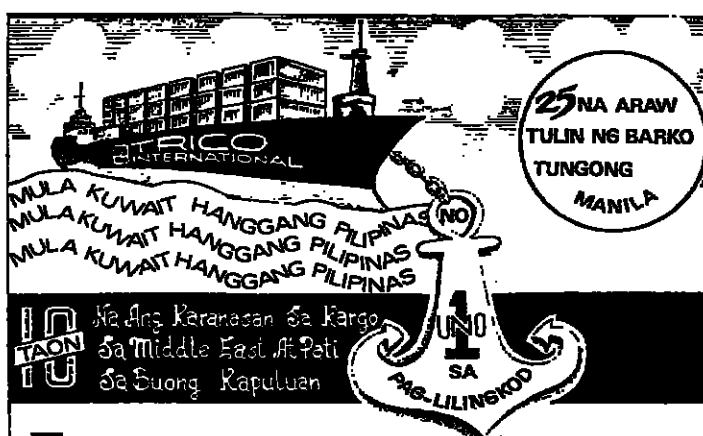
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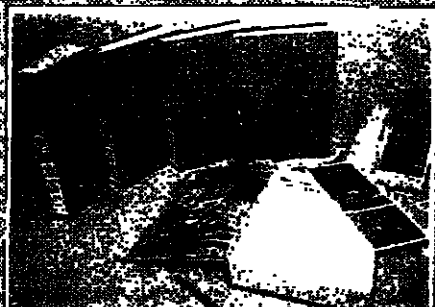
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## SPORTS

## Wheaton stuns Agassi, Chang sails through

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vermont, Aug. 4 (AP). Top-seeded and defending champion Andre Agassi suffered another early exit when he was beaten by first-year pro David Wheaton 1-6, 7-6 (7-3), 6-1 yesterday in the third round of the Volvo International tennis tournament.

Wheaton, a 20-year-old ranked 122nd, won the biggest match of his brief career and advanced to the quarterfinals.

"It's just awesome that I beat a top 10 player. I'm just sorry it had to be Andre because we're close friends," said Wheaton, who won his first singles title in April at the Brasilia Challenger.

"It just wasn't clicking for me there and that's the key about tennis," said Agassi. "If you get the person to try more than he's capable of, you have him beat. And that's what happened."

Agassi, 19, hasn't won a title since Livingston, New Jersey, last year.

No. 2 seed Michael Chang advanced to the quarterfinals with a 6-3, 6-2 win over Derrick Rostagno, and third-seeded Brad Gilbert joined him with a 6-4, 7-6 (7-4) victory over Wally Masur.

Agassi's loss continued a skid that began shortly after he won this tournament last year. The title was one of six he collected in a year that saw his ranking shoot from 25 to No. 3.

Jim Courier advanced to the quarterfinals for the second straight year by defeating No. 8 Dan Goldie, 6-2, 6-2.

Jim Grabb, who on Wednesday upset Yannick Noah, pulled off another upset by ousting No. 10 Johan Kriek, 6-3, 6-4.

## Berlusconi criticises new rules

MILAN, Italy, Aug. 4 (Reuters). The president of European champions AC Milan today criticised tough new rules that hold Italian soccer clubs responsible for violence by their fans and said the club had appealed against their introduction.

Silvio Berlusconi described the rules, announced by the Italian Soccer Federation after a season marred by two deaths in fighting among fans, as "praiseworthy in intent but insane in content."

The sanctions to be introduced when the new season starts on August 27, include fines of up to 50 million lire (\$36,000) and possible two-match bans on playing at home for clubs whose fans cause trouble inside and outside stadiums at home or away fixtures.

"The regulations are absolutely impossible to apply, since like this will take us back to the Middle Ages," Berlusconi told reporters.

He said AC Milan's general manager Adriano Galliani, had written to the federation expressing his opposition to the regulations, which will be modified, he said.

Berlusconi's criticism has been shared by officials of other leading First Division clubs, including Napoli and Roma, who say it is unjust to penalise them for acts of hooliganism that may be beyond their control.

Federation chairman Antonio Matarrese said the new rules, which also include the introduction of identity cards for supporters, would be enforced despite the criticism.

"These rules exist and I'm going to make sure they are respected. Hooligans or no hooligans, they present a danger and have to be dealt with," he said.

## English FA fine Leeds, Portsmouth

LONDON, Aug. 4 (Reuters). Portsmouth were fined £5,000 (\$8,150) by the English Football Association (FA) today for their poor disciplinary record last season.

The Second Division club, who had seven players sent off during the season, also received a £20,000 (\$32,600) suspended fine, the biggest ever levied by the FA which will be payable if the club's disciplinary record does not improve next season.

In addition, the club must pay a £1,000 (\$1,630) fine suspended from last year.

Other Second Division sides in trouble were Leeds and West Bromwich who both received £3,000 (\$4,890) fines. First Division Southampton, who were fined £2,000 (\$3,260) and Stockport County of the Fourth Division, fined £1,000.

Leeds, West Bromwich and Stockport also collected suspended fines of £1,000 and were given new suspended fines of £7,500 (\$12,225). Southampton received a suspended fine of £5,000.

All the clubs with the exception of Stockport have been ordered to attend a further hearing in December when their progress during the early months of the 1989-90 season will be examined.

## Police blamed for death of 95 soccer fans

LONDON, Aug. 4 (AP). Poor planning and "stagnant reaction" by police and soccer officials led to the death of 95 fans in Britain's worst sports disaster, a government report said today.

The 71-page report said authorities at Hillsborough stadium in Sheffield, England, failed to recognise how big their job would be or how to cope with problems when they developed during the opening minutes of an FA Cup semifinal last April 15. Police came in for the harshest criticism.

"Neither their handling of problems on the day nor their account of it in evidence showed the qualities of leadership expected of their rank," the report said.

The main reason for the disaster was the failure of police control.

The report recommended a 15 per cent reduction in standing room at all English soccer stadiums and better safety procedures at the perimeter fences.

## Graf blanks opponent

World No. 1 gallops into semifinals



Graf did not drop a game

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Aug. 4 (Reuters). Steffi Graf, the overpowering world number one, romped to a 6-0 6-0 win over fellow West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch in just 42 minutes yesterday to reach the semifinals of a \$200,000 women's tennis tournament.

"Today she played so unbelievable," said Kohde-Kilsch, the seventh seed. "She didn't miss anything and played with so much confidence."

It was Graf's 10th straight win over Kohde-Kilsch, who at 25 is five years older than the world's best.

Graf now awaits the winner of this evening's quarterfinal between American Ann Grossman and West German Bettina Bunge, who scored a second-round 6-1 6-1 win over Briton Jo Durie.

"It was definitely the easiest time I've had with her, and the best match of the tournament. I've played so far," Graf said after dismissing Kohde-Kilsch.

Graf took a break from the circuit after capturing her second

successive Wimbledon title last month but has picked up where she left off.

"I was surprised. I expected a much more difficult match, and I would've enjoyed a tougher one, but I'm not going to complain," Graf said.

Others advancing included sixth-seeded Nathalie Tauziat of France, who beat American Gigi Fernandez 6-3 1-6 6-1 and American Gretchen Magers, a 6-2 7-5 winner over 15-year-old Mexican wildcard Angelica Gavaldon.

Kohde-Kilsch, who is ranked 20th in the world, won just 22 points in her lopsided loss to Graf but was not down on herself following the rout.

"I'm not embarrassed, it's just disappointing for me," Kohde-Kilsch said. "I've never lost a match like this (without winning a game) to anybody. It's not like I'm playing badly. If I play like this I can beat a lot of players."

Kohde-Kilsch said Graf's overpowering style and success were good for the game.

## Stage set for European Cup

GATESHEAD, England, Aug. 4 (Reuters). East Germany's bid to reclaim top place in European men's athletics rest largely on the broad shoulders of Olympic champions Ulf Timmermann and Juergen Schulz at this weekend's European Cup.

The East Germans held first place in the biennial competition for 10 years before they were upstaged by the Soviet Union in 1985.

The Russians again headed their arch-rivals in Prague two years later but their men's team this year appear to lack the all-round strength of the East Germans.

Olympic gold medalists Timmermann and Schulz should guarantee East Germany maximum points in the 100 metres and 200 metres respectively.

In addition, Seven Matthes has the fastest time in Europe over 100 metres this year and European champion and world silver medalist Hagen Melzer is the swiftest European in the 3,000 metres steeplechase.

Britain's Olympic silver medalist Linford Christie, defending champion in the 100 metres, returned to his winning ways in a match against Kenya last Friday.

Christie is the fastest European 100 metres runner ever but has been plagued by foot injuries this season and is by no means a certainty to become the first man to win the event for a second time.

Italy, who have never finished higher than fifth in

the eight-nation event, have little chance of qualifying as one of the top two European nations for the Barcelona World Cup in September.

But they have Europe's fastest man over 1,500 metres this year in Gennaro Di Napoli as well as Salvatore Antibo who has been in sensational form this season.

Di Napoli clocked an Italian record three minutes 32.98 seconds in Pescara last month while Antibo recorded the second fastest time ever over 10,000 metres in Helsinki on June 29.

Antibo will run the 5,000 here to allow world steeplechase champion and world silver medalist Francesco Panerai to compete in the 10,000.

Antibo, who plans an assault on the world record at the Brussels Grand Prix on August 25, says he would have preferred to run the 10,000.

"But the team says it needs me to run the 5,000 so that's okay," he said. "I've never particularly liked the 5,000 but this could be the chance to learn to like it."

East Germany have dominated the women's competition for the past 20 years, apart from Moscow four years ago where they finished second to the Soviet Union.

Double world spring champion Silke Moeller plus Olympic champions Petra Felke in the javelin and Sigrid Wodars in the 800 metres form the basis of a formidable team.

## Americans dominate meeting

VIAREGGIO, Italy, Aug. 4 (Reuters). Americans dominated an international athletics meeting in the Italian seaside resort of Viareggio on Wednesday, with easy wins for veterans Evelyn Ashford, Renaldo Nehemiah and Danyel Williams.

On a cool and humid summer night there were few surprises, with wins also for Ibrahim Boutayeb of Morocco in the

1,500 metres and for Sebastian Coe of Britain in the 800 metres, for which he holds the world record.

Former Olympic champion Ashford had a satisfying 11.46 seconds win in the women's 100 metres, making up for second place in Pescara two weeks ago and pipping fellow American Diane Williams by three tenths

of a second.

In the 400 metres hurdles Harris, silver medalist in the 1984 Olympics and again at the 1987 Rome World Championships, loped way ahead of his competitors after a false start to win in 49.84 seconds.

Mauro Maurizi of Italy was more than a second behind and Yugoslavia's Rok Kopitar was third.

## Walker wins farewell race in Stockholm

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Aug. 4 (AP). John Walker, still going strong in the twilight of his career, came up with a surprising victory Wednesday night in his farewell race at Olympic stadium.

The 37-year-old New Zealander, who has run more sub-4 miles than any other runner in history, used a strong kick down the stretch to win the 3,000 metres in 7 minutes 54.53 seconds.

"Not bad for an old guy like me," said Walker, a former Olympic 1,500-metre champion who ran his first race in Sweden in 1973 as a promising 800-metre runner.

He didn't win that one. Still, he has fond memories of Sweden, having a set a world mile record of 3:49.4 at Goteborg almost 14 years ago when he became the first sub 3:50 miler in history.

Walker, who had not won a race since he took a 1,500 in England last year, beat runner Douglas Wakihuri of Kenya by more than two seconds. Wakihuri, the 1987 world marathon champion and second in the Seoul Olympics, rarely competes in track races.

Peter Renner, another New Zealander, was third in 7:59.70 followed by Steve Binns of Britain (8:00.23) and Bill Krohn of the United States (8:01.61). Binns led for several laps until the 2.5k mark, when Walker surged ahead.

Ingrid Kristiansen of Norway, who owns three world records in women's long distance running, was another impressive winner in the Stockholm Games invitational track meet that drew only 2,470 fans.



Tyson makes his way through the crowd following a press conference, in Beverly Hills, California, where it was announced yesterday that Tyson had signed a seven-figure contract with Toyota Motor Corporation of Japan. Tyson will film commercials that will be shown exclusively in Japan. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Green sues Tyson over Harlem brawl

NEW YORK, Aug. 4 (AP). Mitch Green has shown Mike Tyson he has a one-two punch, charging in a \$25-million lawsuit that the heavyweight champion hit him in a Harlem street brawl a year ago and reneged on a promised rematch in the ring.

Green, 32, of New York City, said Wednesday that he was "seriously injured" when Tyson socked him in front of a Harlem clothing store in New York City, early last Aug. 23. Green later appeared at a police station with his left eye swollen shut.

The former street gang leader, once ranked sixth among heavyweight boxers, said he had approached Tyson to ask for a match. Tyson had defeated Green in a 10-round decision in May 1986.

In papers filed in Manhattan's state Supreme Court, Green accused Tyson of "intentionally, viciously and violently punching (him) in the face with his fist without justification or provocation."

Mel Sachs, Green's lawyer, said: "Tyson admitted hitting Mitch. He felt he could hit him because he became intoxicated with power but he can't just hit someone with impunity."

Green also said Tyson promised the next day to fight him in the ring. Actually, Tyson said he would give Green a match if he "cleans up his act."

Meanwhile, Green was arrested last Dec. 30 in New York City and charged with intoxicated driving and drug possession. He is free on bail and is scheduled to appear in court on those charges next Monday.

Assistant district attorney Michael Bongiorno said Green also has information on driving and robbery charges pending in another area of New York City.

In another development Tyson said that he would like to fight Michael Dokes in either September or October, according to promoter Don King said.

That match can't be lined up, Tyson's next choices for opponents would be Buster Douglas or Razor Ruddick, King said yesterday.

The Las Vegas Hilton has the right of first refusal for Tyson's next fight, King said.

Tyson said little, other than that he'd like to fight in September, November and January.

Tyson and King also announced a seven-figure promotional deal with an automobile company.

Tyson still has three fights remaining on a \$26.5 million contract with the US cable television network HBO.

He is then scheduled for a pay-per-view fight, which could be against George Foreman, King said. That fight, which King called the "Rip van Winkle fight," would probably be overseas, possibly in Tokyo, Indonesia or even Beijing.

Commenting on the possibility of a fight between Tyson and unbeaten Evander Holyfield, King said: "Holyfield has amateur promoters. They're not ready for this fight. The fight has to be built up and there is a risk to build him up."

King said he would like to see Holyfield continue to fight contenders. "The risk is worth everything, because if Holyfield keeps winning and keeps taking risks, the fight between Holyfield and Tyson could become the biggest ever."

Also yesterday, HBO vice-president Seth Abraham denied that Tyson would have a rematch with Frank Bruno.

Earlier, British promoter Jarvis Astair said in London that Abraham had told him a Tyson-Bruno rematch was more viable than a fight against Holyfield.

## Reds crush Astros 18-2 for record

NEW YORK, Aug. 4 (AP). The Cincinnati Reds set a Major League record with 16 hits during a 14-run first inning as they demolished the Houston Astros 18-2 yesterday.

Seven Reds had two hits off Houston starter Jim Clancy and reliever Bob Forsch in the first at Riverfront Stadium, breaking a century-old record. The previous record for most batters with two hits in an inning was set by Chicago against Detroit in 1883.

The Reds fell one run short of the National League record for most runs in one inning, set by Brooklyn in the first inning against Cincinnati in 1952.

The previous one-inning hit record was set by the Boston Red Sox, who had 14 against Detroit in 1953. The National League record of 12 hits in one inning was held by the St. Louis Cardinals, who did it against Cincinnati in 1925. The Reds' 12 singles in the first inning were another record.

Tom Browning, 9-10, pitched an eight-inning shutout for the Reds.

Cardinals 6, Mets 5.

Tom Pagnozzi's run-scoring single broke a sixth-inning tie and Milt Thompson matched his career high with four RBIs as St. Louis edged the Mets. Dan Quisenberry got the win.

## Results

American League	
Chicago	6 Oakland 4
Cleveland	4 Boston 2
New York	8 Minnesota 1
Detroit	5 Toronto 0
9 Texas	9 6
California	6 Seattle 0
National League	
Cincinnati	18 Houston 2
St. Louis	6 New York 5
Pittsburgh	1 Montreal 0
Chicago	2 Philadelphia 0
San Diego	6 Atlanta 0
Los Angeles	6 San Francisco 3

## Eagles face Browns on Sunday

LONDON, Aug. 4 (AP). Business keep bringing Al Harris back to London, an unusual destination for someone whose occupation is playing professional football — US style.

In 1986, as a member of the Chicago Bears, Harris was here to play the Dallas Cowboys in the first American Bowl, a National Football League exhibition game that has grown into an annual sporting rite of British summer.

Three years later, Harris is wearing the green and silver of the Philadelphia Eagles, who take on the Cleveland Browns at Wembley Stadium on Sunday.

He says he's happy, and surprised, to be back.

"When I was here in '86, I said, 'I'd like to come back here sometime and look around,'" Harris said. "But I never thought I'd come back here to play another football game."

Harris was left unprotected by the Bears as rosters were tightened by the NFL this season, and the Eagles quickly signed the 6-foot-5, 245-pound linebacker.

The Browns and the Eagles went through more practice sessions Wednesday at a south London track stadium and will switch their training to Wembley, the national soccer stadium, tomorrow for a light workout.

When the NFL first came up with the idea of an exhibition game in London, some teams balked, fearing it would disrupt their training camps. That feeling has changed, and teams are lining up to go overseas. As one of the few players who has been through this before, Harris sees no disadvantages to the travel.

## 49ers and Rams to play exhibition game

## Japanese give star treatment to US football players

TOKYO, Aug. 4 (AP). Star treatment was never quite like this for American football star Roger Craig, a television hero come to life for new fans in Japan.

Craig and other players from the San Francisco 49ers and Los Angeles Rams are getting a warm reception from their enthusiastic but polite fans as they practice for an exhibition game Sunday.

The Japanese may not understand the tactics of American football, but they know a celebrity when they see one.

"It's great — they really look up to us," said Craig, the 49ers' record-setting running back. "We're their heroes. We're like big-name entertainers here."

Craig and Rams quarterback Jim Everett got a taste of Japan's passion for sports in March when they made a promotional visit for Sunday's NFL preseason game, dubbed the American Bowl.

The powerfully built Craig finds himself surrounded by youngsters for more than one reason as he makes the rounds as part of an endorsement contract with Mizuno Corp.

On the teams' first full day here, a slender running back from Seijo University hunched over in playing position and beamed as he posed for a photograph with Craig in the Tokyo Dome.

"This is everyone's dream to see them in person," said 20-year-old Jun Iida. "Their speed



Montana (left) was the main topic between members of the Japanese and American media.

was great. They got muscles, they got everything."

The 49ers' dramatic Super Bowl victory over Cincinnati last January made a big impact on sports fans here, Japan was one of eight countries to televise it live. Iida and his teammates from the Tokyo school, where American-style football has been

played since 1956, rose to watch it before dawn local time.

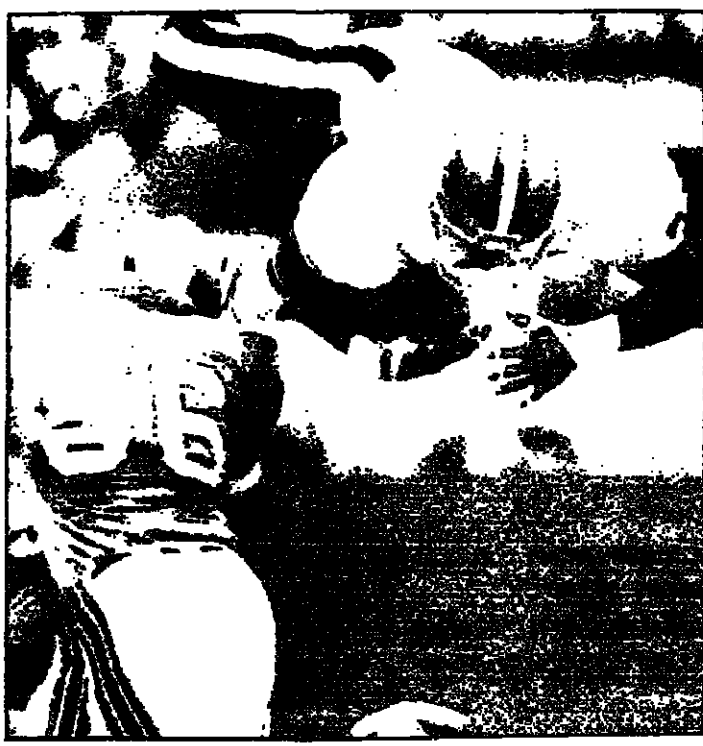
Members of the media quizzed an American reporter during the 49ers' workout in the dome yesterday, and team quarterback Joe Montana was the main topic. They wanted to know, did the "magic man" make the miracle pass that won the Super Bowl?

Meanwhile, Everett has a fan

tasy.

The Rams quarterback is standing in the pocket, an enormous line of Sumo wrestlers sealing off any glimpse of a pass rush. He has as much time to find a receiver as a Tokyo suburbanite might spend on a subway commute.

"Shoot, I'd love to see if some of those guys can try out for our



Craig flies through the air during a game against Dolphins last season

offensive line," Everett said with a grin during a break.

US Football already has tried a "Refrigerator" in the backfield — the nickname of super-heavyweight William Perry of the Chicago Bears. Why not a "Yokuzuna," a sumo grand champion, on the line?

Sorry, Jim.

"In the ring they're fast, but to run 10 or 15 yards would be a different thing," Jesse Kuahulua, a retired Sumo wrestler, said.

Azumazeki, as Kuahulua is known in Japan, played tackle for his high school football team in Hawaii and went on to a successful 20-year career here. He's now a sumo coach.



# Smith leads Hampshire to win over Surrey

LONDON, Aug 4. (Reuters): Robin Smith, scorer of a maiden Test century in England's defeat by Australia at Old Trafford, hit a brilliant unbeaten 125 on Wednesday to lead Hampshire into the semifinals of the NatWest Trophy one-day competition.

He and his captain Mark Nicholas put on 176 for the fourth wicket at the Oval after Hampshire, set a 60-over target of 229, by Surrey had slumped to 23 for three.

Smith hit a six and 12 fours in his 141-ball innings, while Nicholas weighed in with 71 as Hampshire crushed Surrey by five wickets.

Mike Gatting, who is to lead a rebel English team on a tour of South Africa early next year, also scored an unbeaten century in Middlesex's 78-run win over Sussex at Lord's.

He and West Indies Test opener Desmond Haynes put on 201 for the second wicket in 47 overs as Middlesex piled up 266 for three.

Gatting's 132, including 16 fours and one six into the pavilion, came off 157 balls. Haynes' less spectacular innings of 88 occupied 168 balls.

Gatting's 'rebel' team-mate John Emburey produced a miserly spell of three for 11 from 12 overs of off-spin to ensure that Sussex, 142 for two at one stage thanks to half centuries from Paul Parker and Alan Wells, ran out of steam.

## Africans will not boycott Games

LONDON, Aug 4. (Reuters): African nations will not boycott next year's Auckland Commonwealth Games, anti-apartheid spokesman Sam Ramsamy said yesterday.

Ramsamy told Reuters there would not be a second successive African boycott of the Games despite this week's announcement that 16 English cricketers would tour South Africa next year.

"There will not be a boycott," he said. "But we are seeking ways to exclude England from the Commonwealth Games."

More than 30 African, Asian and Caribbean nations boycotted the 1986 Edinburgh Games in protest against Britain's refusal to agree to economic sanctions against the Pretoria government.

Ramsamy said African nations were outraged both by this week's cricket tour announcement and by the English Rugby Football Union's support of matches to celebrate the centenary of the South African Rugby Board.

The rugby union has said it will pass on invitations to players to take part in international matches this month.

Ramsamy said other Commonwealth nations had said that they would pass on rugby invitation but England was the only country involved in both a rugby and a cricket tour.

"It's the combination of the cricket and rugby tours which has magnified the problem," Ramsamy said.

"We think the Games will and should continue and we will continue to support them as long as all those taking part in the Games are committed to non-racialism." Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira told a news conference.

He was speaking after talks with his New Zealand counterpart Russell Marshall, who has launched a diplomatic drive to head off a boycott of the Games.

"We would be very angry if the tour continues. We hope that the British government will take every measure to stop it," Shamuyarira said.

"Our attitude to the rebels will be determined by what attitude the British government takes," he added.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other anti-apartheid church leaders today denounced a coming rebel English cricket tour of South Africa, calling the visit an obscenity and the players mercenaries.

"It is actually an obscenity to come to South Africa at this stage in our crisis," Tutu, flanked by six other church leaders, told a news conference.

# I'm no traitor, says Gatting

'Rebels volunteered for rebel tour'

LONDON, Aug 4. (Reuters): Mike Gatting broke his silence yesterday over his decision to captain the rebel England cricket tour to South Africa by insisting: "I'm no traitor."

Speaking for the first time since the squad was announced on Tuesday, Gatting said: "I have done the best for myself and my family."

"My family life has been ripped apart just recently because of the death of my mother-in-law and I had given my life to cricket. It is my turn to share the responsibilities with my family."

The 32-year-old former England Test skipper faces a seven-year ban from Test cricket after agreeing to lead a 16-man England squad in South Africa next January. The team will be managed by David Graveney.

"Being called a traitor hurts because I love playing for England, and I always have done," said Gatting. "But I am in no way a traitor."

Gatting declined to talk about his increasingly frosty relationship with the English Test and County Cricket Board.

But he said: "It's a decision I don't think I'll ever regret. I'm a sportsman and I should be allowed to play cricket anywhere in the world. That's how I've got to earn my living for myself and my family."

Gatting said his decision to join the rebel tour was based on his assessment of what was left for him in English cricket.



David Graveney: team manager

He added: "I know very little about apartheid. I believe there should not be any politics in sport, but I understand that the South African Cricket Union (SACU) are trying to break apartheid and they are far-distanced from the South African government."

"SACU are trying to integrate sport there and break down barriers and apartheid as best they can. They seem to be the only people who are trying to do it, because their government aren't."

Yesterday, Jack Bannister, a television commentator and former players' representative, said that most of the rebel cricketers volunteered to play in South Africa and were not recruited.

Bannister, until recently secretary of the Cricketers' Association, also denied in his regular newspaper column in the Birmingham Post that he had any involvement in recruiting players for the boycott-breaking tours.

"I first knew about the first 10 names of the 16 players concerned in early June and far from recruiting being done by myself or anyone else, my information is that at least 11 of the 16 volunteered once it became known on the county circuit that a tour was likely."

In Calcutta, India's top cricket official said yesterday the tour was a stab in the back to the game and the players should be punished severely.

"Cricket did not deserve to suffer such a mortal blow from some of its finest exponents," said Bishwanath Dutt, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

"The rebel tour to South Africa under their former captain Mike Gatting is a stab in the back of world cricket and all sports lovers, irrespective of creed and colour, should condemn it," Dutt told Reuters.

"No sports lover believing in fair play and human dignity should have anything to do with these cricketers," he added.

In Karachi, Pakistan cricket board secretary Arif Ali Khan Abbasi said: "The greedy and discarded players who are not accepted look to South Africa for money. Some of the rebels are nearing the retirement age and therefore they preferred money."

He described South Africa as "a heaven for discarded cricket players."

And in Johannesburg, an anti-apartheid sports coalition said yesterday it would campaign to prevent English cricketers touring South Africa next year.

The National Sports Congress (NSC), a coalition of anti-government sports bodies, said it would send a delegation to meet the 16 cricketers before they began the tour in January.

"The tour will be stopped at all costs," NSC spokesman Krish Naidoo told a news conference.

Speakers at the news conference condemned an effort by the South African cricket authorities to promote cricket in black townships, saying it merely camouflaged apartheid.

## 'Moon golf ball' bears Harden's name

DEL MAR, California, Aug 4. (AP):

Somehow on the moon, there's a golf ball with Jack Harden's name on it.

No, Harden cannot drive a ball quite that far. But his name was on the ball hit by astronaut Alan Shepard 18 years ago, during the Apollo 14 lunar mission.

"I'd have to be the only person with his name on the moon," Harden quipped.

Not quite, but he's in pretty exclusive company. Members of the first manned mission to the Moon in July 1969 left behind a commemorative plaque embossed with their names and then-President Richard Nixon's.

The story of what some call golf's most famous shot involved a mixture of ingenuity and intrigue.

Harden was the head professional at the Houston River Oaks Country Club, which was frequented by National Aeronautics and Space Administration personnel in 1971.

when he was approached by a NASA engineer.

The engineer told Harden that Shepard was "toying" with the idea of hitting a golf ball during a moon walk on his upcoming space flight.

The problem was how to smuggle a golf club into the space capsule.

"It was the best kept secret in the whole space programme," Harden said. "Only myself, Shepard, a NASA technician, and (NASA executive) Chris Craft knew about the shot."

Harden set about using his lifetime experience in the game to solve the problem.

He was given the end portion of the utility tool similar to one Shepard would be carrying on the moon and a blueprint of the entire device.

Taking the portion of the stem and cutting off a small shovel from its end, Harden was able to grind the stem so that it would fit into the hosel of a six iron. He then used tiny rivets to secure the club head to the stem.

There was a special reasoning to Harden's club choice for the high-profile shot.

"The six-iron is the most ignored club in the bag," Harden said.

The makeshift clubhouse was returned to Shepard, who was able to reattach the stem with its head to his utility tool used to retrieve rocks and other moon souvenirs.

The tool folded to nearly pocket size.

"It was perfect for concealing the club," says Harden who at 76 still teaches golf in Del Mar.

There remained the problem of finding golf balls that could withstand the extreme heat of the moon's surface. Two-piece Surlyn balls had just come on the market and Harden had purchased a supply of the spalding balls for the club's practice range.

Three of the balls, inscribed with the words "property of Jack Harden," were delivered along with the clubhouse to the NASA technician.

The shaft had a nylon cord running its length to give it the necessary firmness.

Shepard announced to the world he was "going to try a little sand trap shot here" as he went about hitting the most famous golf shot in history.

The bulky astronaut garb forced Shepard to swing one-handed, but the lack of atmosphere produced a shot that travelled an estimated 600 yards.

Today, the adapted "Moon club" is on display at the USGA Museum makes no mention of the man who was an integral part of the moon shot.

Harden is a two-time Texas PGA champion, defeating the likes of Byron Nelson, Jimmy Demaret, and other Hall of Famers. But his involvement with the moon shot is the one thing he feels separates him from others in a lifetime devoted to the sport.

Harden has saved newspaper clippings from 1971 documenting his part in the affair.

## Recalde wins 2nd rally leg

CORDOBA, Argentina, Aug 4.

(Reuters): Defending champion Jorge Recalde of Argentina widened his lead over his Lancia teammates yesterday by winning the second leg of the Argentine Motor Rally.

Recalde took a 46-second overall lead over Mikael Ericsson of Sweden after clocking two hours three minutes and 21 seconds in the eight primes of a distance of 176.45 km.

Ericsson took two hours three minutes and 55 seconds to complete the course, putting his overall time to three hours three minutes six seconds.

Italy's Alessandro Fiorio, also in a Lancia, maintained his third position overall and trailed Ericsson by 14 seconds.

## All Blacks tipped to beat Wallabies

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Aug 4. (Reuters): New Zealand's All Blacks are firm favourites to beat Australia when the two rivals meet in tomorrow's Bledisloe Cup rugby union match at Eden Park.

Australian coach Bob Dwyer agreed the world champions were widely expected to win following his team's 2-1 Test series result against the British Lions and the All Black's impressive victories over France and Argentina.

"If we don't improve about 50 per cent from our performances against the Lions, we may as well not turn up," he said yesterday.

Trying to inject more life into his side, Dwyer has selected three youthful new caps — hooker Phil Kearns, prop Tony Daly and 19-year-old

centre Tim Horan. But as a balancing move he has also recalled veteran prop Andy McIntyre and former Wallaby skipper Simon Poidevin.

The All Blacks will field a largely unchanged side. Other than Mike Brewer, who replaces the injured Michael Jones as open-side flanker, the team will be the same as in their last six Tests.

An All Black win would extend their winning sequence to 17 Tests without defeat, equalling team records achieved between 1961 and 64 and between 1965 and 70.

But captain Wayne Shelford said his side did not need records for motivation.

"Playing against the Wallabies is incentive enough — this is the Test of the seasons," he said.

Schwantz fastest in official practice

## Lawson and Rainey set for duel

DONINGTON PARK, England, Aug 4. (Reuters): Americans Eddie Lawson and Wayne Rainey are set to transfer their off-track animosity into a high speed duel for the world 500cc motor-cycling crown in Sunday's British Grand Prix.

Lawson, the defending champion who is seeking his third world title, is currently second in the championship only 8.5 points behind Rainey and desperate to regain the initiative from his former friend turned greatest rival.

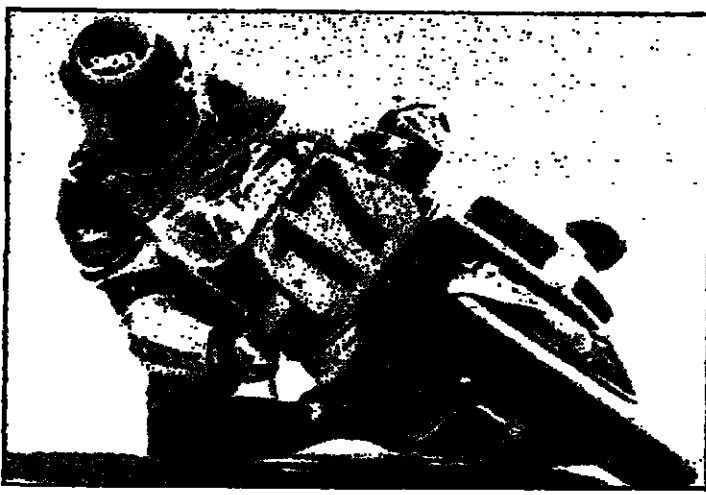
Rainey, last year's winner at Donington Park, was once a close companion of Lawson's and has admitted he learned a lot from the Californian rider before becoming his biggest title threat.

Admitted Rainey: "When you have two guys running for the championship you cannot be the best of buddies."

"We don't hate each other, but there is so much at stake. We used to travel around together a lot and Eddie opened up a lot of doors for me."

"Everything was fine until this season — now we are both up there competing for the title and it is serious."

Lawson, on a Honda, set the pace in yesterday's unofficial practice when he was the quickest of six riders who clocked times inside Frenchman Christian Sarron's lap record for the twisting Donington circuit.



Rainey: current leader

Another American Kevin Schwantz, on a Suzuki, was second quickest with Rainey back in fourth place on his Yamaha.

Cynics suggested Rainey was distracted by thoughts of an offer worth \$3 million to join the Yamaha team next year.

Today, Schwantz, winner of three events this year, set a blistering pace in the opening official practice today.

Schwantz averaged just over 152 kph as he clocked one minute 34.83 seconds on his Suzuki.

Rainey has rejected the offer and is reported to be happy to stay with his lucky strike-backed team.

Schwantz is regarded as the most spectacular and fastest rider of them all — but also the most unpredictable. "He is a win or crash rider," said a Suzuki team spokesman.

The American challenge for the British crown will not include Freddie Spencer who has parted company with Yamaha after failing to find his best form this season.

Britons Ronnie Haslam and Niall MacKenzie will lead the home challenge with Australian Wayne Gardner hoping to complete a triumphant comeback to racing after breaking his leg in the US Grand Prix early in the season.

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Schwantz averaged just over 152 kph as he clocked one minute 34.83 seconds on his Suzuki.



Evans: extends winning streak

## Barrowman sets record

LOS ANGELES, Aug 4. (Reuters): Mike Barrowman finished a disappointing fourth at the Seoul Olympics, but yesterday he put his name into the record books by swimming the fastest 200 metres breaststroke in history.

Barrowman overwhelmed the competition at the US National Long Course Swimming Championships by setting a world record of two minutes 12.90 seconds during his preliminary race. The old mark of 2:13.34 was set by Canadian Victor Davis in 1984.

The 20-year-old Barrowman was determined to better the record in the finals but at the start of the race he knocked his goggles cock-eyed but still managed to win in 2:14.74.

Janet Evans extended her winning streak to 18 consecutive races in major competition by capturing the women's 200 metres individual medley in 2:15.15. Evans has now won 29 of her last 31 races.

In other men's action, Dan Jorgensen won the 400 metres freestyle in 3:50.88 — the fastest time in the world this year.

The top swimmer in each of the races will earn a spot on the US Pan Pacific team which will compete in Tokyo, August 17-20.

Earlier on Wednesday, David Wharton, Olympic silver medalist, set an American record in the 400 metres individual medley with a time of four minutes 15.93 seconds.

Wharton has now lowered the American record in the event four times since 1986.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

**Australia triumph:** Australia beat Nottinghamshire by 100 runs in the final day of their three-day cricket match at Trent Bridge yesterday. Australia 284 and 255 for four declared, Nottinghamshire 195 and 141. (Reuters)

**Navratilova's plans:** Martina Navratilova, coming back from a vacation, says she has a good idea how to regain her No. 1 ranking in the world of women's tennis from young Steffi Graf. "I think we need to go off to Siberia," Navratilova joked Tuesday after a workout at the Steffi off to Siberia. "Navratilova's decision at a news conference to stay at the Park Racquet Club. "If she wasn't around, I'd still be No. 1." (AP)

**Passarella retires:** Argentine soccer star Daniel Passarella, who led Argentina to victory in the 1978 World Cup, said on Thursday he was retiring from the game. Passarella, 36, announced his decision at a news conference at the River Plate soccer stadium in Buenos Aires. (Reuters)

**Barkley-Nunn fight:** Boxer Iran Barkley's former trainer said he had an early push in his money dispute with the one-time champion. A judge has granted a temporary restraining order halting plans for the scheduled Aug 14 middleweight fight between Barkley and Michael Nunn. (AP)

**Rugby union match:** Tickets go on sale on Monday for a rugby union match that has yet to be announced — the opening game in the sevens, shrouded tour of South Africa by an international XV. (Reuters)

**Commonwealth titles:** World-ranked boxing brothers Troy and Guy Waters will defend their Commonwealth titles on the same bill at Jupiter's casino on the Gold Coast resort strip of Queensland state on September 2, promoter Marty Rhone announced yesterday. (AP)

**Velasquez reaches milestone:** Jorge Velasquez became the fifth jockey in history to ride 6,000 winners in a career, driving 3-year-old filly Maddle Bumpo to the wire on Thursday. "She broke very slowly, and I was kind of worried," Velasquez said afterward. (AP)

**International League:** The debut of an International Football League may be delayed until 1991 because of scheduling and conflicts with soccer's World Cup, League president Tex Schramm said Thursday. (AP)

**Yugoslav basketball star:** Yugoslav basketball star Drazen Petrovic on Thursday denied reports he was signing his team Real Madrid for not releasing him to play in the National Basketball Association (NBA). (Reuters)

**Yugoslav international:** Yugoslav international Dino Radja, signed this week by Boston Celtics on a one-year contract, will not be released by his club Jugoplastika to play in the National Basketball Association (NBA). (Reuters)

**Bittner wins race:** Armin Bittner of West Germany, the defending World Cup slalom champion, breezed to victory over Patrick Bianchi of France on Thursday in an International Ski Federation race at Mount Huns on New Zealand's South Island. (AP)

**Weightlifter banned for life:** Finnish weightlifter Aki Heikkinen has been banned for life after two infringements of anti-doping rules. The Finnish Weightlifting Federation said on Thursday they had also banned Heikkinen from adjudicating at competitions. (Reuters)

**Admiral's Cup:** Britain again increased their lead in the Admiral's Cup last night after a day of drama during which a competitor was taken to hospital and two yachts were forced to retire. (UPI)

**Italian Olympic champion:** Olympic marathon champion Gelindo Bordin of Italy was admitted to hospital with pneumonia on Thursday. His trainer Luciano Gigliotti said Bordin, whose season since victory at last year's Seoul Olympics has also been marred by injury, would miss several races but hoped to be fit in time for the New York marathon in November. (Reuters)

**Win for an England XI:** With their official Test squad outplayed and outclassed by Australia during the current Ashes series, an England XI at last won a match when they played a rest of the world team in the cricket camp of Newcastle on Thursday. (Reuters)

**World Cup qualifier:** Luxembourg will play their World Cup Group Seven soccer qualifier against Portugal on October 11 in Saarbrücken, West Germany, instead of Metz, France. (Reuters)

**Soviet soccer player:** Italian First Division club Juventus are set to sign midfielder Sergei Aleinikov from Dynamo Minsk — their second Soviet signing in as many seasons. Pietro Giuliano, president-general of the Turin side, said on Wednesday Dynamo had agreed to sell the 27-year-old Soviet international for \$2.85 million. (Reuters)

**Bjorn Borg puts up cash:** Sweden's former tennis ace Bjorn Borg will put up the cash to pay the debts of his ailing fashion company, the president of the firm said on Wednesday. "Bjorn Borg has personally promised to meet the company's debt," Stig Sjöblom, president of Bjorn Borg Design Group, said in a statement. But last week's decision to close the Scandinavian operation had not changed. (Reuters)

**Lendl and Graf chase record:** Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and Steffi Graf of West Germany will chase a record total of \$3 million in prize money for next year's Australian Open championship, organisers announced Wednesday. The defending champions will be among players competing in the year's opening Grand Slam tournament. (AP)

**Tracy Austin injured:** Two-time US Open singles champion Tracy Austin was injured in an automobile accident Thursday, police and hospital officials said. Austin, 26, was brought to Overlook hospital in Summit, but her injuries were not life threatening, the hospital said. (AP)

**IOC defends drug test:** Amateur sport should adopt the controversial drug test that showed Ben Johnson to be a long-time steroid user, the Canadian government inquiry on drug use was told on Thursday. The test would radically alter the current system which can only detect recent use of banned drugs, said Dr Manfred Donike, a member of the anti-doping commission of the International Olympic Committee. (Reuters)

**Tewell shoots course record:** Doug Tewell took advantage of calm conditions and an early time to fire a course record eight-under-par 63 and take the first-round lead in the one million dollar St Jude Classic golf tournament on Thursday. (Reuters)

**Record-equalling rounds:** Britain's Philip Harrison and Australian Peter Senior fired record-equalling eight-under-par 64s to take the lead in Thursday's first round of the Scandinavian Open golf tournament. (Reuters)

**Ngugi heads Kenyan team:** Olympic 5,000 metres champion John Ngugi heads a powerful Kenyan team for the Sixth African Athletics Championship starting in Lagos yesterday. Ngugi, winner of the world cross country championship for a record fourth successive time this year, plans to switch to the 10,000 metres in time for next year's Auckland Commonwealth Games. (Reuters)

**Porsche choose Onyx:** West German sport car firm Porsche are close to signing a five-year deal with the Onyx team for a comeback to Formula One motor racing in 1991, the Onyx owner said yesterday. (Reuters)

**Leonard-Duran fight:** Sugar Ray Leonard and Roberto Duran, dogged by nine years of controversy over the phrase "no mas, no mas," say their battle on Dec 7 will settle that issue, once and for all. "Duran has something to prove to me, and I have something to prove to Duran," Leonard said Wednesday. (AP)

**Ferry getting \$1 million:** Italian basketball is giving Danny Ferry the adulation traditionally reserved for soccer kings after the former US college star chose the Italian League over the NBA. Team executives confirmed Wednesday that Ferry's one-year contract with Messaggero Roma will pay him \$1 million making him the second highest-paid athlete in Italy. He trails only Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona, who earns a reported \$1.2 million a year playing for Napoli. (AP)